



11u/12u Baseball Rules

The Waxahachie Youth Baseball Association (WYBA) has adopted the rules outlined by USSSA Sporting News Rules were stated otherwise by the WYBA governing body.

Field Dimension:

- Base Paths- 70 feet
- Pitcher's Mound- 50 feet from the front of the pitching rubber to the back of home plate

Equipment:

- Ball Type- Rawlings ROLB1 or manufacturer's equivalent
- Bat Type- Any USSSA approved bat is allowed. All bats for age divisions 14u and younger must be permanently stamped with the new USSSA 1.15 BPF mark, or BBCOR.50 certified mark or made of wood. And manufactured by a licensed USSSA manufacturer.
- In age divisions 5u-12u, non-metal cleats shall be worn
- The catcher shall wear all appropriate protective gear including a catcher's helmet with facemask and either a built-in extended throat guard or a separately attached throat guard, chest protector, shin and/or leg guards, and protective cup.
- All offensive players shall use a double ear-flap batting helmet whenever at bat, on deck, on base or any other time outside of the dugout and the ball is live and in play.

Game Length, Scoring & Lineups:

- Game Length
 - Each game will be 90 minutes or 6 innings, whichever comes first.
 - If a new inning has been started before the 90 minutes expires, the inning will be completed. Unless it is not possible for the home team to win or tie.
 - A regulation game consists of 6 innings, if 3 innings have been played or if the home team has scored more runs after 2 ½ innings the game shall be declared a complete game.
- Scoring
 - 6 Runs Per Inning
 - Mercy Rule: 15 run lead after the 3rd inning or 8 run lead after the 4th inning.
 - Ties are allowed.
 - The home team is responsible for keeping the official score book and working the scoreboard.
- Lineups
 - Lineups will be completed by each team's coach and exchanged before each game.
 - When using a continuous lineup and a player must leave the game for any reason, that position in the line-up becomes an out when that at bat comes around.
 - No player can sit out defensively more than 2 innings.
 - Each team is required to field at least 7 players to start the game.
 - One out will be assessed for each time the 8th and 9th player would have batted until the team rosters at least 9 players in the game.
 - Players that arrive late must be rostered at the end of the batting lineup.
 - If a team cannot field 7 players, it will forfeit the game and be scored as a loss.

- A scrimmage may take place between the teams upon declaration of the forfeit. If a scrimmage takes place, the umpire will not be present.
- Game time will not be delayed more than 5 minutes for a late player.

Batting & Base Running Rules

- An intentional walk may be issued upon announcement from either the pitcher or catcher without throwing pitches.
- At any time, the offensive team may use a courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher of record from the previous inning on defense. The courtesy runner shall be the player making the last batted out.
- Whenever a tag play is evident, a runner must slide or seek to avoid contact with the fielder and/or catcher. Malicious contact shall supersede all obstruction penalties. Malicious contact is solely up to the discretion of the umpire.
 - Penalty: The runner shall be out and may be ejected from the game at the discretion of the umpires.
- A runner who jumps over a player will be called out whether contact is made or not with the defensive player.
- Straight steal of home or suicide squeeze bunt will not be allowed. Runner will be declared out.
- If a player slings his bat. The coach will be given a team warning. After the warning the batter will be called out if it occurs again.

The Pitcher:

- A player removed from the pitching position (starting pitcher or subsequent relief pitchers) may not return to the pitching position for the remainder of the game. The defensive team may correct this rules infraction at any time by substituting a legal pitcher without penalty. If any illegal pitcher is permitted to pitch, any pitch or play that results is legal. The rule violation should be caught by the umpire or the offensive team and immediately corrected. If the violating pitcher has legal innings remaining the violation is deemed an improper substitution and is corrected without penalty. If the

violating pitcher has no legal innings remaining, it's deemed a pitching limitations violation pursuant to USSSA Rule 7.05 B.7.

- MANDATORY DAYS OF REST
 - A player that pitches more than 3 innings (9 outs) in one day. Must rest the next day.
 - A player that pitches more than 8 innings (24 outs) in three consecutive days. Must rest the next day.
 - A player that pitches 3 consecutive days (regardless of the total quantity of innings pitched). Must rest the next day.
- Pitching Mound visits will remain 2 coaches visits per inning, with the second coaches visit to the same pitcher in the same inning resulting in a pitching change.
- A pitcher shall pitch to one batter, until the batter is put out, or reaches 1st base, or the inning is over.
- A pitcher that starts an inning must pitch to the first batter until the batter is put out or reaches 1st base. USSSA will NOT be using the MLB mandatory batter limits.
- Defensive Alignment- no more than 9 defensive players may play the field on defense.
 - Infield- every infield position must be filled, and catcher must set up in the catcher's box no more than 4 feet behind home plate.
 - Outfield- 3 outfielders must be used if 9 or more players are present at the game.
 - Outfielders must play at least 20 feet behind the base path in the outfield.
 - A force out will NOT be awarded to the defensive team if the ball is fielded by an outfielder who was lined up too close prior to the batter's swing.
- Player Position Rules
 - No player can sit out defensively more than 2 innings.
 - Each player MUST play 1 inning in the infield every game. 2 innings if the game is 5 innings or longer.

- The WYBA will allow for a player to skip infield rotation for the safety of the player, if deemed needed. However, the player will not be allowed to sit more than one inning if infield rotation is skipped.
- Play Stoppage
 - Play stoppage is at the umpire's discretion and is NOT subject to appeal.
 - Play stops when the defense has secured the ball, and the lead runner is not attempting to advance.
 - Overthrows will not result in any kind of stoppage.

Coach Rules:

- Coaches- a total of 4 coaches (head coach/assistant coaches) per team may be positioned inside the fence perimeter.
 - All 4 coaches MUST always have their badges on and visible. No exceptions will be made. If a head coach or assistant coach does not have a badge visible, you will be asked to leave the field.
 - Defensive Coaches
 - 2 coaches may be arm's length away from the dugout, the remaining 2 coaches must remain in the dugout.
 - Offensive Coaches
 - 1 coach down left field foul line, or 3rd base coach
 - 1 coach down right field line, or 1st base coach
 - 1 dugout coach

Sportsmanship:

- All players, coaches and spectators will conduct themselves properly and with respect for all others at the Optimist Fields.
- All players, coaches and spectators will abide by the rules of the Optimist Fields, at all times while on the premises.

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- Profanity, assault (whether verbal or physical) or any other abuse of any person by another at any WYBA-sanctioned event is strictly prohibited.
- The Waxahachie Police Department will be immediately Summoned should any player, coach or spectator become involved in a fight.