

2022 RACINE COUNTY YOUTH BASEBALL KICKOFF TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

Last Updated 3/13/2022

Rules:

The Minor, Major, Pony, and Senior League **Kickoff Tournament** rules will supersede the "2022 NFHS Rule Book" and the "2022 Racine County Youth Baseball League Rules" for their respective League. The following additions/exceptions apply:

Kickoff Tournament Format:

Kickoff tournaments will be in a pool play/single elimination format. All teams will play two "pool play" games (unless a team has a bye). Opponents for the pool play games will be randomly picked at the annual Coach's meeting. The results of the two pool play games will seed the single elimination bracket. Seeds are determined first by record, then by runs allowed, and finally by a coin flip. Teams receiving a bye in a pool play game will double their runs allowed from the single game when determining seeding.

No game may be forfeited or a team disqualified without authorization of the Tournament Director. If a team forfeits a game or withdraws from the tournament, once the tournament schedule has been set, the sponsoring community for that team will pay the hosting community a penalty of \$100 per team that forfeits or withdraws.

The Manager from the winning team must report their scores to the Tournament Director.

Kickoff Tournament Roster:

This is a rostered team tournament. Rosters and line-ups must be exchanged before each game.

The Kickoff Tournament is the same as the regular season using a continuous batting lineup and all players submitted on the lineup card will bat. Late arriving players should not be added to the lineup card until they arrive, once they arrive the player will be added to the last spot in the lineup, regardless of where the team is in the batting order. A player missing his spot in the lineup for any reason will be removed from the game, an out will be charged to the team (exception, no out is charged for a player being removed from the game due to an injury), and the player will NOT be allowed to return to the lineup or play defense. A player mistakenly batting out of order does NOT need to be removed from the game but is subject to batting out of order rules.

In the event that a player is injured, a courtesy runner may run for the injured player. This courtesy runner will be the player that made the last recorded out, even if the last recorded out was the preceding inning. Exception, if the last recorded out is the pitcher or catcher of the next inning, the next recorded out may be used.

The minimum defensive inning rule will NOT apply in the Tournaments. It is strongly suggested, however, that each child play a minimum of two defensive (2) innings.

The team bench is limited to the team's rostered players, three coaches, and one scorer.

Pitching:

Minor League pitchers are allowed to pitch a maximum of twenty-seven (27) outs in the tournament (including both "pool play" and bracket games), eighteen (18) outs per day and nine (9) outs per game.

Major, Pony, and Senior League pitchers are allowed to pitch a maximum of thirty-six (36) outs in the tournament (including both "pool play" and bracket games), twenty-four (24) outs per day and twelve (12) outs per game.

Pitchers that have exhausted their inning count may pitch an additional 9 outs (Minors) or 12 outs (Major and up) in the Championship game.

Both managers must meet after the game to complete the "Tournament Pitching Roster" for each team. Managers must document the pitchers' names, number of outs pitched by each pitcher and then sign the

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opposing teams "Tournament Pitching Roster." Violation of this rule will result in forfeiture of the game by the offending team.

In the event that games are behind schedule, a game shall be considered as being played according to the original schedule for purposes of meeting pitching limitations and completing the "Tournament Pitching Roster" (i.e... if a Saturday night game is postponed until Sunday, it will be treated as a Saturday game for purposes of meeting the above limits).

Game Timing:

The Umpire is the Official Timer. No new inning may start after the time limit unless the score is tied. In the event of an injury that delays play for more than a few minutes, the time delay will be added to the game clock.

Minor and Major League games are 1 hour and 30 minutes. Pony and Senior League games are 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Tournament Championship games will play by regular season game timing rules which are:

Minor – 6 innings with no new innings after 2 hours

Major – 7 innings with no new innings after 2 hours

Pony and Senior – 7 innings with no new innings after 2 hours and 15 minutes

There will be no more than five (5) warm-up pitches between innings or after pitching changes. Teams should anticipate potential pitching changes. In addition, the baseball must be returned directly to the pitcher after an out.

No infield or batting practice is allowed on the playing fields. You may practice in other areas approved by the Tournament Director.

A Manager or Coach may come out once in one inning to talk to a pitcher, but the second time the player must be removed as the pitcher. The Manager or Coach may come out three times in a game to talk to a pitcher, but the fourth time the player must be removed as the pitcher. This rule applies to each pitcher who enters the game.

****NEW IN 2022 Slaughter Rule: Minors (15) or more runs after (3) innings or (10) or more runs after four (4) innings. Majors (10) or more runs after (4) innings. Pony/Senior (10) or more runs after (5) innings. Run rule will not apply in Tournament Championship game.

****NEW IN 2022 - The seven (7) run limit for Minors WILL apply in the tournament.

Pool Play games - The home team will be determined at random using the pool play tournament matrix.

Bracket Games - The home team will be the team with the better seed.

Protests:

When a Manager feels that an Umpire decision is in violation of the tournament playing rules, he/she shall make a formal protest with the Umpire and Tournament Director before the next pitch. The Tournament Director and the Umpire(s) shall reach a decision before play is resumed.

