



ARCADIA PONY BASEBALL USA BAT RULES

PONY Website:

On January 1, 2018 USA Baseball will be implementing a rule change to the bats. If you are 14 years old or younger and play Little League®, Babe Ruth & Cal Ripken, PONY, Dixie or AABC, you will need to use a new bat marked with a new USA Baseball stamp: The bats currently on the market, which are marked with a 1.15BPF stamp, will no longer be legal for play in these leagues. USSSA youth baseball will NOT be implementing this rule change to the bats. So if you are 14 years old or younger and you play on a travel ball team, or are playing in a tournament governed by USSSA, you can continue to use the bats marked with the 1.15BPF stamp indefinitely. All current model Easton bats marked with the 1.15BPF stamp will be allowed in USSSA play for all events extending beyond January 1, 2018.

Additionally, beginning on January 1, 2018, under the new USA Baseball rule, all players 14 and under (not including Tee-Ball) will be able to use approved USA Baseball 2-5/8" barrels in Little League®, Babe Ruth & Cal Ripken, PONY, Dixie and AABC.

USA Baseball stamps are not stickers for these divisions and it will be screen printed on the bat.



For our Shetland Division, a sticker can be placed on an older bat that says it is for "Tee-Ball" on the bat. The bat must be 26 inches or smaller. Stickers can be purchased on the PONY.org website.



<http://www.pony.org>



ARCADIA PONY BASEBALL PITCH SMART



As will be stated in Section 10 "Pitching Rules" and T-8 "Tournament Pitching," any team member may pitch, subject to the restrictions of the pitch count, as recommended by MLB Pitch Smart Guidelines, for age divisions Pinto 8U, Mustang 10U, Bronco 12U, Pony 14U, Colt 16U, Palomino 18U and Thoroughbred 23U. Players in the Shetland 6U age division are not permitted to pitch. Pitchers are to adhere to the chart below for league and sanction tournament play.

Pitchers reaching their maximum number of pitches in a day, while pitching to a batter, may finish pitching to that batter before being removed. A pitcher is charged with the number of pitches in the specific calendar day and week in which they are pitched, regardless of whether they are local organization league games, the playoff of postponed games or suspended games, tie games, or exhibition games.

Rest is calculated as per calendar day. No pitcher shall appear in a game as a pitcher for three consecutive days, regardless of pitch count. Pitchers do not reset on a new week.

Teams can assign an official scorekeeper, if mutually agreed upon, to track pitch counts. In the absence of an official scorekeeper, the home team book shall be the official record of games statistics including pitch count. Electronic scoring devices are recommended at all levels of tournament play in order to ensure accurate pitch count.

AGE	DAILY MAX PITCHES	REQUIRED REST (PITCHES)					
		0 DAYS	1 DAY	2 DAYS	3 DAYS	4 DAYS	5 DAYS
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
17-18	105	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81+	N/A
19-22	120	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81-105	106+

<http://m.mlb.com/pitchsmart>



ARCADIA PONY BASEBALL

2026 FALL SEASON

SHETLAND RULES

1. Games will be 5 innings or with no new inning starting after 1-hour and fifteen (15) minutes, unless tied or complete game length per Pony Baseball, Inc. rules has not been reached. There is no drop-dead time.
2. 38' pitching machine distance from the tip of home plate to the front of the pitching machine bar.
3. 50' Bases.
4. No steel cleats, USA Bats Only.
5. All players are required to wear a cup, girls recommended.
6. Continuous batting order, everyone must bat.
 - a) If you have 9 players to start the game but a player will be showing up late, you have to put them at the bottom of the line-up and let the umpire and other manager know they will be arriving late. Once the player arrives, let the umpire and other manager know and they will bat in the last batting position. The player will not be considered an out because you have 9 players.
 - b) If a player leaves the game for any reason (with the exception of a medical need), it will be an automatic out for that batting position, for one rotation.
7. Every player may be positioned on defense. A maximum of seven players may be in the infield, including a catcher and pitcher. Players in defensive position on the infield may not come any closer than 45 feet from home plate until the ball is hit. (except Pitcher/Catcher)
8. Max 5 runs per inning, no open innings.
9. Mercy rule – 10 runs after the 4th inning. Complete game is 3 innings or 2 ½ innings if the home team is ahead.
10. Prior to the mid-season (prior to Spring Break), a player will receive 5 attempts, (4 balls from the pitching machine and 1 ball off the tee). The 5th and subsequent balls shall be placed on the tee until the ball is put into play.
11. Following the mid-season (starting after Spring Break), tournament rules will apply. The batter is out if failing to hit a fair ball after a maximum of six (6) pitches or after three (3) strikes from the pitching machine, unless the batter hits a foul ball on the 6th or any subsequent pitch (not swinging at the 6th or any subsequent pitch results in an out).
12. The offense provides coaches in the designated coach's boxes, one (1) coach feeding the pitching machine, and one (1) coach in the dugout area. The defense provides two (2) coaches on the field, left side and right side of the infield. Coaches cannot interfere with the ball in play, this will be considered an out.
13. Pitching Rules:
 - a) The coach feeding the pitching machine shall take position to the rear of the pitching machine.
 - b) The pitching machine is not moved when hitting from the tee. If a batted ball hits the pitching machine, if it goes in foul territory it is dead, otherwise it is a fair ball and is counted towards their 5 attempts, foul or fair.
14. No walks, no stealing, no leading off, and no bunts, and no infield fly rule.
15. Runners can advance to second base on an overthrow to first base, but do so at their own risk. Runners can continue to advance on a batted ball or on an overthrow to any other base.
16. The ball is considered "dead", at the discretion of the umpire, when the player has the ball in the infield and raises both hands in the air.
17. The home team is the official recorder/scorekeeper for the game (use Game Changer).



ARCADIA PONY BASEBALL 2026 FALL SEASON PINTO RULES

1. Games will be 6 innings or with no new inning starting after 1-hour and forty-five (45) minutes, unless tied or complete game length per Pony Baseball, Inc. rules has not been reached. There is no drop-dead time.
2. 40' pitching distance from the tip of home plate to the front of the rubber.
3. 60' Bases.
4. No steel cleats, USA Bats Only.
5. All players are required to wear a cup, girls recommended.
6. Continuous batting order, everyone must bat.
 - a) If you have 9 players to start the game but a player will be showing up late, you have to put them at the bottom of the line-up and let the umpire and other manager know they will be arriving late. Once the player arrives, let the umpire and other manager know and they will bat in the last batting position. The player will not be considered an out because you have 9 players.
 - b) If a player leaves the game for any reason (with the exception of a medical need), it will be an automatic out for that batting position, for one rotation.
7. **Every player must play a minimum of 2 defensive innings.**
8. Max 5 runs per inning, with the 5th and 6th innings open.
9. Mercy rule – 10 runs after the 4th inning. Complete game is 4 innings or 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead.
10. Batters are allowed to bunt.
11. Base runners are not allowed to leave the base until the ball is released by the pitcher. If a baserunner is caught leading off a base, he is declared out and the ball is dead.
12. Home plate is open.
13. No infield fly rule, no drop third strike rule.
14. Mercy rule – 10 after 4 completed innings. Complete game length is 4 innings or 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead.
15. No curve balls, they will be considered a no pitch.
16. There are no balks, however, pitchers must try to set themselves before the pitch. There is no penalty, but it must be corrected when it occurs.
17. **Daily Max pitches is 50.** Required rest is as follows: 1-20 = 0 Days, 21-35 = 1 Day, 36-50 = 2 Days. (must be tracked per game in league team binder). Rest days equal full days after the day played.
18. Pitchers do not reset on a new week.
19. If a pitcher is at the max pitches during a batter, they can complete pitching for the at bat.
20. A manager can make only **two visits** to the mound. On the third visit, the pitcher must be removed, except for injury.
21. If the pitcher hits 3 players in an inning, he must be removed and replaced with a new pitcher.
22. The home team is the official recorder/scorekeeper for the game (use Game Changer). The scorekeeper will track pitch counts.



ARCADIA PONY BASEBALL 2026 FALL SEASON MUSTANG RULES

1. Games will be 6 innings or with no new inning starting after 1-hour and forty-five (45) minutes, unless tied or complete game length per Pony Baseball, Inc. rules has not been reached. There is no drop-dead time, unless game is played at Arcadia County Park, where games must conclude by the 2-hour and fifteen (15) minute mark and the score reverts to the last final inning played.
2. 46' Pitching distance from the tip of home plate to the front of the rubber.
3. 60' Bases.
4. No steel cleats, USA Bats Only.
5. All players are required to wear a cup, girls recommended.
6. Continuous batting order or 9-player batting order bat with substitutions.
 - a) If you have 9 players to start the game but a player will be showing up late, you have to put them at the bottom of the line-up and let the umpire and other manager know they will be arriving late. Once the player arrives, let the umpire and other manager know and they will bat in the last batting position. The player will not be considered an out because you have 9 players.
 - b) If batting continuous and a player leaves the game for any reason (with the exception of a medical need), it will be an automatic out that batting position for one rotation.
 - c) Substitute players with the official scorekeeper.
 - d) If batting 9-player batting order, starting player may re-enter game only once, to their original place in the batting order, after being replaced.
 - e) If batting 9-player batting order, once removed, a substitute player may not re-enter the game, unless an injury occurs to a starting player.
7. **Every player must play a minimum of 2 defensive innings.**
8. Max 5 runs per inning, with the 5th and 6th innings open.
9. Mercy rule – 10 runs after the 4th inning. Complete game is 4 innings or 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead.
10. Prior to the mid-season (prior to Spring Break), each pitcher will get a warning for a balk.
11. Following the mid-season (starting after Spring Break), balks can be called from the start of the game.
12. Major League Baseball rules apply ie: stealing, lead-offs, drop 3rd strike, bunting, and infield fly.
13. You can substitute a pinch runner, for your catcher or pitcher anytime with last player out.
14. **Daily Max pitches is 75.** Required rest is as follows: 1-20 = 0 Days, 21-35 = 1 Day, 36-50 = 2 Days, 51-65 = 3 Days, 66+ = 4 Days (must be tracked per game in league team binder). Rest days equal full days after the day played.
15. Pitchers do not reset on a new week.
16. If a pitcher is at the max pitches during a batter, they can complete pitching for the at bat.
17. The home team is the official recorder/scorekeeper for the game (use Game Changer). The scorekeeper will track pitch counts.



ARCADIA PONY BASEBALL 2026 FALL SEASON BRONCO RULES

1. Games will be 7 innings or with no new inning starting after two (2) hours, unless tied or complete game length per Pony Baseball, Inc. rules has not been reached. There is no drop-dead time, unless game is played at Arcadia County Park, where games must conclude by the 2-hour and fifteen (15) minute mark and the score reverts to the last final inning played.
2. 50' Pitching distance from the tip of home plate to the front of the rubber.
3. 70' Bases.
4. Only Rubber Cleats Allowed on the Pitching Mound.
5. All players are required to wear a cup, girls recommended.
6. 9-person roster with substitutions.
 - a. If you have 9 players to start the game but a player will be showing up late, you have to put them at the bottom of the line-up and let the umpire and other manager know they will be arriving late. Once the player arrives, let the umpire and other manager know and they will bat in the last batting position. The player will not be considered an out because you have 9 players.
 - b. Substitute players with the official scorekeeper.
 - c. Starting player may re-enter game only once, to their original place in the batting order, after being replaced.
 - d. Once removed, a substitute player may not re-enter the game, unless an injury occurs to a starting player.
7. **Every player must play a minimum of 2 defensive innings.**
8. Max 6 runs per inning, with the 7th inning open.
9. Mercy rule – 10 runs after the 5th inning. Complete game is 5 innings or 4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead.
10. Major League Baseball rules apply ie: stealing, balks, lead-offs, drop 3rd strike, bunting, and infield fly.
11. You can substitute a pinch runner, for your catcher or pitcher anytime with last player out.
12. **Daily Max pitches is 85. Required rest is as follows: 1-20 = 0 Days, 21-35 = 1 Day, 36-50 = 2 Days, 51-65 = 3 Days, 66+ = 4 Days (must be tracked per game in league team binder). Rest days equal full days after the day played.**
13. Pitchers do not reset on a new week.
14. If a pitcher is at the max pitches during a batter, they can complete pitching for the at bat.
15. The home team is the official recorder/scorekeeper for the game (use Game Changer). The scorekeeper will track pitch counts.