



MPK PONY BASEBALL USA BAT RULES (EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018)

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>



**MPK PONY BASEBALL
PITCH SMART (EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018)**



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.

<u>AGE</u>	<u>DAILY MAX PITCHES</u>	<u>REQUIRED REST (PITCHES)</u>						
		<u>0 DAYS</u>	<u>1 DAY</u>	<u>2 DAYS</u>	<u>3 DAYS</u>	<u>4 DAYS</u>	<u>5 DAYS</u>	
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>



MPK PONY BASEBALL 2022 SPRING SEASON SHETLAND RULES

1. Games will be 1-hour drop dead.
2. Coaches are encouraged to have each player play each position during the season.
3. Pitching machine will be 38' from the tip of home plate to the front of the pitching machine bar.
4. 50' Bases.
5. A 10-foot arc should be drawn from baseline to baseline. Ball on the arc is fair.
6. Hash marks to be drawn in the center between 1st/2nd, 2nd/3rd and 3rd/Home. The hash marks should be centered between the bases and located 3ft towards the outfield, that will be considered the "infield".
7. A pitchers circle must be drawn around the pitching machine.
8. The offense provides two coaches on the field when at bat. 1) behind the plate and 2) at the pitching machine. The defense provides two coaches on the field, left side and right side of the infield. Maximum of four coaches in the dugout during a game. Coaches cannot interfere with the ball in play, this will be considered an out.
9. **Continuous batting order with all players on the roster. Switch sides after 7 batters, 5 runs or 3 outs.**
10. **A player will receive 5 attempts, 3 balls from the pitching machine or coach pitch and 2 balls off the tee OR all 5 off the tee. The LAST attempt to put the ball in play is missed or foul tipped it will result in an out. Batter is not out on a foul or foul tip unless it is a LAST attempt.**
11. Pitching Rules:
 - a) Coach Pitch is required to have one foot in the circle, pitching overhand.
 - b) The player pitcher shall take position, always to the rear of the pitching machine, and on the left or right side of the circle.
 - c) 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.
12. No walks, no strikeouts (only on 5th missed or fouled attempt).
13. If a player is out they must come off the field.
14. No stealing or leading off, until the ball is put in play by the batter.
15. Runners can advance on an overthrow when in play, runners can be tagged out.
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. Runners can advance or must return to the base depending on which side of the hash mark they are on when the ball is dead.
18. No bunts, No throwing bats, 2 warnings for the team, after that, it is an out (safety precautions).
19. No infield fly rule.
20. There will be no forfeits. Teams can borrow current rostered MPK or SG PONY players to assist in the outfield.
21. Defense 10 players – Catcher, Pitcher, 1st, 2nd, SS, 3rd, and 4 outfielders, no infield rover.
22. The catcher is required to wear a cup (boys only), all other players are highly recommended.
23. The defensive catcher will be in full gear. The catcher shall stand away from the plate until the batter swings, then field the position defensively. (There is no dropped third strike rule.)
24. Coaches cannot interfere with the ball in play, this will be considered an out.
25. The home team is the official scorekeeper and is the official recorder for the game. Only for the purposes of changing sides each inning and not to keep the actual score of the game.



MPK PONY BASEBALL 2022 SPRING SEASON PINTO RULES

1. Games times will be, no new inning after 1:35, and drop dead at 1:45
2. 40' pitching distance from the tip of home plate to the front of the rubber.
3. 60' Bases.
4. All players are required to wear a cup, girls recommended.
5. Continuous batting order
 - a) If you have 9 players to start the game but a player will be showing up late, let the umpire and other manager know they will be arriving late. They should be put at the bottom of the line-up.
 - b) If you only have 8 players to start the game and a player is showing up late, if the 9th player does not show up before the 9th batting position bats, it will be an out only the first time around. The second time around will not be an out and the late player cannot enter.
 - c) If 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.
6. Max 5 runs per inning. The 5th and 6th inning is open. Scorebooks should be kept by both teams, the home team is the official scorebook during the game and the final score. All scores must be turned in by the home team within 24 hours after each game, no scores will equate to a split loss.
7. The game will end per the time limit or 6 innings, whichever comes first.
8. The final score is the last **completed** inning. If time runs out and the inning is not completed, the score will revert to the last completed inning.
9. Batters are not permitted to bunt or soft swing at the ball. PENALTY: Batter is out and runner advancing home is out.
10. Base runners are not allowed to leave the base until the ball crosses the plate or in play.
11. Only 1 stolen base per pitch. On an attempted steal of any base, the catcher gets a free throw to the base, the ball will be considered dead at that point with no advancement of any runner.
12. For the first half of the season, **"No Walks" on bases loaded**. On ball four, an eligible coach will throw 3 pitches from the rubber, if the batter is unable to put the ball in play, the batter is out. (No hit by pitch base). After 4 weeks, all kid pitching and walks will be allowed.
13. There is no stealing while the coach is pitching.
14. **Home plate is closed and can only advance home if ball is put in play by the batter**. If a runner at third draws a throw from the catcher, the runner cannot advance home. However, if called out, the out will stand. Other runners may advance if there is a throw to third.
15. Ten (10) defensive players (four outfielders) will be allowed.
16. No infield fly rule, no drop third strike rule.
17. Mercy rule – 10 after 4 completed innings.
18. Kid pitch will begin at the start of the season. No curve balls, will be considered a no pitch.
19. **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.**
20. Teams can assign an official scorekeeper, if mutually agreed upon, to track pitch counts.
21. Pitchers do not reset on a new week.
22. If a pitcher is at the max pitches during a batter, they can complete pitching for the at bat.
23. A manager can make only two visits to the mound. On the third visit, the pitcher must be removed, except for injury.
24. If the pitcher hits 3 players in an inning, he must be removed and replaced with a new pitcher.
25. 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.
26. Protest must be handled on the field at time of incident. There are NO protests once game play resumes from the incident. The game will continue to be played when under a protest.
27. The home team is the official scorekeeper and is the official recorder for the game.



MPK PONY BASEBALL 2022 SPRING SEASON MUSTANG RULES

1. Game times will be, no new inning after 1:35, and drop dead after 1:45 or 6 innings.
2. 46' Pitching distance from the tip of home plate to the front of the rubber.
3. 60' Bases.
4. All players are required to wear a cup, girls recommended.
5. Continuous batting order
 - 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 you only have 8 players to start the game and a player is showing up late, if the 9th player does not show up before the 9th batting position bats, it will be an out only the first time around. The second time around will not be an out and the late player cannot enter.
 - c) If 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.
6. **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.**
7. Teams can assign an official scorekeeper, if mutually agreed upon, to track pitch counts.
8. Pitchers do not reset on a new week.
9. If a pitcher is at the max pitches during a batter, they can complete pitching for the at bat.
10. First half of the season, **each pitcher** will get a one warning for a balk. Second warning, all runners advance one base. After the half way point, balks can be called from the start of the game.
11. Major League Baseball rules apply ie: stealing, lead-offs, drop 3rd strike, infield fly.
12. Every player must play 2 innings.
13. If there are 2 outs in an inning, you can substitute a pinch runner, for your catcher, or pitcher.
14. NO steel cleats.
15. Scorebooks should be kept by both teams, the home team is the official scorebook during the game and the final score. All scores must be turned in by the home team within 24 hours after each game, no scores will equate to a split loss.
16. For the first half of the season, max 5 runs per inning. The 5th and 6th innings are open. After the first half of the season, innings are open.
17. The game will end per the time limit or 6 innings, whichever comes first.
18. The final score is the last **completed** inning. If time runs out and the inning is not completed, the score will revert to the last completed inning.
19. Mercy rule – 15 after 4, 10 after 5.
20. Protest must be handled on the field at time of incident. There are NO protests once game play resumes from the incident. The game will continue to be played when under a protest.
21. The home team is the official scorekeeper and is the official recorder for the game.



MPK PONY BASEBALL 2022 SPRING SEASON BRONCO RULES

1. Game times will be, no new inning after 1:50, and drop dead after 2:00 or 7 innings.
2. 50' Pitching distance from the tip of home plate to the front of the rubber. ONLY RUBBER CLEATS ON THE MOUND. NO STEAL CLEATS ON THE MOUND.
3. 70' Bases.
4. All players are required to wear a cup, girls recommended.
5. Continuous batting order
 - 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 you only have 8 players to start the game and a player is showing up late, if the 9th player does not show up before the 9th batting position bats, it will be an out only the first time around. The second time around will not be an out and the late player cannot enter.
 - c) If 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.
6. **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.**
7. Teams can assign an official scorekeeper, if mutually agreed upon, to track pitch counts.
8. Pitchers do not reset on a new week.
9. If a pitcher is at the max pitches during a batter, they can complete pitching for the at bat.
10. Major League Baseball rules apply ie: stealing, lead-offs, drop 3rd strike, infield fly.
11. Every player must play 2 innings.
12. If there are 2 outs in an inning, you can substitute a pinch runner, the last out, for your catcher or pitcher.
13. **Steel cleats are allowed, with the exception of the pitcher, to preserve the portable mounds.**
14. Scorebooks should be kept by both teams, the home team is the official scorebook during the game and the final score. All scores must be turned in by the home team within 24 hours after each game, no scores will equate to a split loss.
15. For the first half of the season, max 5 runs per inning. The 6th and 7th innings are open. After the first half of the season, innings are open.
16. The game will end per the time limit or 7 innings, whichever comes first.
17. The final score is the last **completed** inning. If time runs out and the inning is not completed, the score will revert to the last completed inning.
18. Mercy rule – 15 after 5, 10 after 6.
19. Protest must be handled on the field at time of incident. There are NO protests once game play resumes from the incident. The game will continue to be played when under a protest.
20. The home team is the official scorekeeper and is the official recorder for the game.



MPK PONY BASEBALL 2019 SPRING SEASON PONY RULES

1. Game times will be, no new inning after 1:50 and drop dead after 2 hours or 7 innings.
2. 54' Pitching distance
3. 80' Bases.
4. All players are required to wear a cup, girls recommended.
5. Continuous batting order, all players 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 you only have 8 players to start the game and a player is showing up late, if the 9th player does not show up before the 9th batting position bats, it will be an out only the first time around. The second time around will not be an out and the late player cannot enter.
 - c) If 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.
6. **Daily Max pitches is 95. 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.**
7. Teams can assign an official scorekeeper, if mutually agreed upon, to track pitch counts.
8. Pitchers do not reset on a new week.
9. If a pitcher is at the max pitches during a batter, they can complete pitching for the at bat.
10. Major League Baseball rules apply ie stealing, lead-offs, drop 3rd strike, infield fly
11. Every player must play 2 innings.
12. If there are 2 outs in an inning, you can substitute a pinch runner, the last out, for your catcher or pitcher.
13. **Steel cleats are allowed, with the exception of the pitcher, to preserve the portable mounds.**
14. Scorebooks should be kept by both teams, the home team is the official scorebook during the game and the final score. All scores must be turned in by the home team after each game.
15. The game will end per the time limit or 7 innings, whichever comes first.
16. The final score is the last **completed** inning. If time runs out and the inning is not completed, the score will revert to the last completed inning.
17. Mercy rule – 15 after 5, 10 after 6
18. Protest must be handled on the field at time of incident. There are NO protests once game play resumes from the incident. The game will continue to be played when under a protest.
19. The home team is the official scorekeeper and is the official recorder for the game.