



Stallions Spring Stampede Baseball Tournament April 28 – 30 2017

Tournament Rules

1. **Payment**
 - a. A Non-Refundable payment of 8U-9U: \$400 10U-14U: \$425 is required for all participating teams.
 - b. A tournament spot is confirmed for a team only after payment in full is received and processed (either by credit card or check). All payments are due by 2/1/17. After that date,
2. This is not a sanctioned tournament; however, all applicable Ohio High School Association Rules shall apply with the modification as listed in this document below.
3. All teams shall carry their own insurance.
4. There will be **NO** bat restrictions for 8U – 13U. 14U must use BBCOR certified bats. All wood bats are also allowed (no hybrids, no bamboo wood). Any team caught using an unauthorized bat will automatically forfeit the game with a score of 8-0. Umpires will enforce 14U bat restriction.
5. All teams must report a minimum of 30 minutes prior to scheduled game times and be prepared to start your game 15 minutes ahead of scheduled game times – should you be requested to do so by tournament directors or an umpire.
6. Team waiver, proof of insurance, and official roster with player's number, first and last name, age, and parent signature, must be turned in prior to first game. No adding players to official roster after start of first game. Players may play for **ONLY ONE** team. Proof of insurance is mandatory, and teams will not be allowed to play unless sufficient documentation of coverage is provided in advance of a team's first game.
7. A coin flip will determine the "Home" team before pool game, except in semi-finals, where the higher seed shall be the home team. Home team will keep the official scorebook and official game sheet. At the conclusion of each game, both managers and/or their designee are required to sign the official game score sheet. Official, sanctioned umpires are used for each game. Officials and game score sheet must denote official start time.
8. Profanity or misconduct by a player, coach, manager or fans will not be tolerated and may result in his or her ejection from the game and dismissal from the tournament. If a player or coach is ejected from a game, they will also sit out the following game. Coaches are responsible for their team fans. In the discretion of an umpire and/or tournament directors, fans and responsible coaches can be ejected from a game.

9. The tournament directors or an appointed representative (i.e. umpires) shall be the sole judge as to the playing condition of the field and is responsible to make a decision for a called game and termination of play. In addition, the tournament directors have the authority to modify the tournament format in order to complete the tournament should we encounter inclement weather or unusual delays. THERE ARE NO PROTESTS – ALL FINAL DECISIONS ARE MADE BY THE UMPIRES.
10. Speed-Up-Rule – Teams may elect to use a courtesy runner for the catcher of the previous inning (after two outs). The runner must be the last batted out. The sole purpose should be to speed up the start of the next inning.
11. Pitchers will be given only 5 warm up pitches in between innings. The fifth pitch will be thrown down to second and then “BATTER UP.”
12. **Pitching Limitations:**

Age	Innings per game	Innings Per Day	Innings Per Tournament
8U	3	5	9
9U	3	5	9
10U	4	6	10
11U	4	6	10
12U	4	6	11
13U	4	6	11
14U	4	6	11

- a. The per game inning limit is mandatory and will be enforced by the umpires. Coaches are responsible to monitor their own players for tournament totals.
- b. Coaches should use great discretion in determining a player’s pitch count and not just the number of innings allowed to pitch.
- c. 1 PITCH = 1 INNING. This applies to games completed, to games forfeited during the course of play, and to extra innings/shoot out in the event of a tie.
- d. Violation of these pitching rules will result in a forfeit.
- e. Once a pitcher is removed from the mound they cannot pitch again during the remainder of that game.
- f. In the event of a suspended game, innings pitched shall be applied to the day the suspended game was originally played.

11. **Age / Format:**

Age	Innings	Time Limit	Steals	Lead-Offs	Base Distance	Pitching Distance
8U	6	1.75 Hours	NO	NO	60	43
9U	7	1.75 Hours	Yes	NO	65	46

10U	7	1.75 Hours	Yes	Yes	65	46
11U	7	1.75 Hours	Yes	Yes	70	50
12U	7	1.75 Hours	Yes	Yes	70	50
13U	7	1.75 Hours	Yes	Yes	80	54
14U	7	1.75 Hours	Yes	Yes	90	60

- a. No new inning can start after the time limit. The last out made in the previous inning shall constitute the start of the next new inning. Thus, if the time limit has not been exceeded when the last out has been made in the previous inning, a new inning may be started.
- b. No time limit shall be imposed on semi and final games.
- c. All games are official after 4 innings if weather or darkness interrupts. Mercy rule is in effect for all games – 15 after 3 innings and 12 after 4 innings and 10 after 5 innings. In the event of a tie, each subsequent inning will continue where it left off in the batting order, however, the inning will begin with the bases loaded and two (2) outs. The runners on base will be determined by their position in the batting order. The runner on first base will be the batter in the batting order that precedes the first batter of the extra inning. The runner on second base will be the batter in the batting order that precedes the runner that is on first base. The runner on third base will be the batter in the batting order that precedes the runner that is on second base. This tie breaker format shall be in effect for all tournament games EXCEPT in semi and final games. Ties in semi and final games shall be decided by extra innings until a winner is determined.
- d. If the Home team is winning after the top half of the last inning of the game, the game is officially over and the Home team shall not bat in the bottom half of the last inning.
- e. Forfeits shall be scored as 8-0. Pitching limitations shall apply for all completed innings up to the point of forfeit.
- f. Seeding/Tiebreaker Criteria:
 - a. Overall record
 - b. Head-to-Head (does NOT apply when 3 or more teams are tied in overall record)
 - c. Least runs allowed
 - d. Run differential (maximum 8 runs per game)
 - e. Most runs scored
 - f. Coin toss

g. Semi Final Seeding – the winners of each pool, and the second place team from each division will be seeded 1-2 based on record and then the tie-breaking criteria mentioned above.

12. Metal cleats are allowed for 13U and 14U. Penalty for 8U-12U is ejection from the game for that player.
13. No balks or lead offs in the 8U or 9U age groups. For the 9U age group the runner must wait until the ball crosses the plate to steal. There shall be one balk warning per pitcher in the 10U-12U age groups and will be at the discretion of the umpire.
14. No infield fly rule or dropped third strike in 8U or 9U.
15. There will be no infield practice prior to the start of the game. Teams may take grounders outside the foul lines in front of the dug outs if time permits.
16. The use of an AH (additional hitter) is at the discretion of each coach, but it is not mandatory. The AH is free to substitute on defense. Teams 8U through 14U may also, at their discretion, utilize the round robin (roster) batting order, but it must be announced at the beginning and held to for the entirety of the game – no removing and reinsertion of players if roster batting is used.
17. A team may start the game with only 8 players, any less and it is declared a forfeit. When a ninth player arrives, he is inserted in the last spot in the batting order. A team that starts with 9 may end with 8 provided there are no eligible players left. If a team starts with 8 players, NO OUT is recorded for the missing player. If a player is ejected or leaves the game for any purpose other than injury or illness and his spot cannot be filled with an eligible bench player, an out will be recorded for every time that spot is due to bat in the order. A spot vacated due to injury or illness that cannot be filled with an eligible player will be skipped.
18. A player's league age is determined by the actual age of the player as of April 30, 2017. Birth certificates are not being checked individually at team registration; however, in the event an opposing manager requests to see a specific player's birth certificate, the manager shall provide it immediately to the tournament director or the on-site representative for review. Managers shall maintain on their possession the birth certificates for their players at all times. Failure to provide proper certification of age eligibility within a timeframe deemed appropriate by the tournament director will be grounds for forfeit.
19. Tournament format is a three game guarantee. Trophies will be provided for 1st and 2nd place with a maximum of 13 trophies per team.
20. Rosters – There are no limits on player rosters. Up to 4 adults are allowed in the dugout at any one time.
21. Umpires – All 8U and 9U games will have one umpire during pool play. All semi and final games will have 2 umpires. 10U – 14U will have two umpires for every game.

22. Admission – Admission to the tournament is free. No gate fees for the event.
23. Pitcher Equipment – Pitchers are allowed to wear a protective helmet or head gear. The helmet/head gear cannot be glossy or have anything else on it that can be deemed distracting to the batter (umpire discretion). It is the umpire and tournament directors' discretion to deem whether any other equipment or clothing that the pitcher is wearing is distracting to the opposing batter. This includes but is not limited to: batting gloves, sunglasses, long sleeves, compression sleeves, athletic tape on wrist/arm, and two toned fielder gloves.
24. Avoid Contact Rule – Players must attempt to avoid contact with other players in tag out situations. If, in an umpire's judgment, there is intentional contact, the umpire may call the runner out on the play. If contact is judged as intentional and malicious, umpire may also eject the player from the game. If a player is ejected for this reason, they may face suspension for their team's next game with the possibility of further sanctions as well. The tournament directors will make final ruling on any possible suspension. On force out situations if the runner slides, they must slide directly into the base. A slide that is not directly into the base is grounds for an interference call (umpire's judgment) and the runner could be declared out. In this instance, the batter/runner could also be declared out if the fielder was attempting to make a play on the batter/runner. Notable, if the runner makes a legal slide directly into the base and contact is made with the fielder, interference will NOT be called.
25. Intentional Delays – Intentionally delaying a game to achieve a victory through the time limit is considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will not be tolerated. The umpires and/or tournament directors at the game reserve the right to eject a coach or player for intentionally delaying a game and possibly declare a forfeit against that team.
26. Line Up Cards – Teams are responsible to provide their own line up cards. A copy should be given to the opposing team prior to the start of each game.
27. Mound Visits – We will follow Ohio High School rules regarding mound visits. Coaches are allowed 2 mound visits per game. After the second visit, the pitcher must be removed. Pitching changes do not count as mound visits.
28. Rain out policy: It's our intent to put on a high value, fun filled tournament. In doing so, we are investing a lot of time and effort to ensure your team's enjoyment. In the event of bad weather, the tournament director reserves the right to push back starting times for games or to modify the format of the tournament and/or time limit of games (including semi and final games) in order to complete the tournament. The following refunds will be in effect in case of cancellation of games:
 - 0 games played 75% of entry fee paid
 - 1 game played 50% of entry fee paid
 - 2 games played **NO** refund

