

District 12 - Major Tournament Information

Managers, Players, Parents and Visitors

All Managers

All Managers are required to check in 45 minutes prior to scheduled start time. If managers are not present at the Site Director's table 45 minutes before game time, the site director will determine who is home and visitor. *All managers are required to check out with the site director immediately after the game.*

Home vs. Visitor

All fields are considered neutral. The Home team shall be determined by the flip of the coin. The Home team will always be in the 1st base dugout.

Game Balls

All teams are required to bring 1 dozen baseballs to their first game.

Game Scorers

The home team for each game will be the official scorer for games throughout the tournament. The scorer may not be located in the dugout. Please explain this to your parents and ask for volunteers.

Rosters

All teams are required to turn in a roster. This should have been done before hand, if you are on the list of rosters not received, you will be required to turn in a roster before you are permitted to play any Saturday games.

Coolers & Outside Food

Presidents, Board Members, Managers and Coaches – Please make it a point to remind all your parents that coolers **ARE NOT WECLOME** at any tournament site. They will be asked to remove them. Please ask everyone to support the hosting league. There will be one cooler allowed in the dug out for **PLAYERS ONLY**. No Outside Food will be allowed in the sites either.

Noisemakers

No noisemakers of any kind, will be permitted in the park during the Tournament.

Passing the Hat

It is a long time tradition in Little League Baseball and Softball to pass the hat at ALL tournaments. Passing the hat must be explained to the parents, relatives, friends and guests by you! Over the past years the collections have been declining to all time lows. This can directly affect our ability to purchase the necessary needs for all the tournaments. Please ask your families, relatives and others to come prepared to donate at games they attend. After all it is for the KIDS!

Profanity

Profanity will not be tolerated by any Manager, Coach, Player OR Spectator. This will result in an automatic ejection from the site. **THERE WILL BE NO WARNINGS ISSUED AT THE SITE, THIS IS YOUR WARNING.**

Safety

Only players, managers, coaches and umpires are permitted on the playing field, dugouts and bullpens during play and warm-up sessions Remember, safety is of the utmost importance at all times.

District 12 Major Baseball Tournament Rules

March 13, 14 & 15, 2008

The Mission Statement for this tournament is to give every player the opportunity to experience a tournament. To insure all players have the opportunity to play many innings in a tournament.

1. **UMPIRES:** Each League involved in a game is responsible for scheduling an umpire for that game. The League is required to have an umpire at that game. If the League fails to have an umpire for the game they are assigned, then that league's team manager and/or coaches will have to umpire the game. *If the League fails to have umpires more than twice* – their teams will be disqualified from the championship rounds of play. All leagues should get involved and ask their umpires, district and non-number umpires, to volunteer. All Leagues and ALL their managers and coaches should volunteer to umpire regardless of what division they play in or what experience they have. Everyone has to help in order to make it the fun! We want it to be FUN for the players. Let's get the newer umpires involved! **ASK YOUR UMPIRES TO COME UMPIRE! ASK YOUR JUNIOR & SENIOR MANAGERS.** The managers of the Major teams are responsible for making sure their assigned games have umpires.
 - a. Umpires for the quarter-finals, semi-finals, and final are to be scheduled by the leagues – see the League requirements on the Championship rounds schedules.
 - b. Assignments for the plate and bases may change if the Site Director deems it necessary.
2. **EACH TEAM playing in the tournament is required to bring 1-dozen new Major Division League baseballs to their first game played. If a team fails to bring the balls by the second game they could be disqualified for the championship rounds.**
3. These rules supersede any in the rulebook, specifically for this tournament only. If the rule is not listed below: See the 2009 Baseball Official Regulations and Playing Rules.
4. Replacement players may not be used in this tournament.
5. All games in this tournament will follow this play time rule:
 - a. All games will NOT start a new inning after 1 hour and 30 minutes.
 - b. The inning must be completed if started before 1 hour and 30 minutes.
 - c. If the home team is ahead and at bat when the time passes the 1 hour and 30 minute mark. The game will end after the batter that is up has completed their turn at bat
 - d. If 6 innings are played in the hour and 30 minutes the game will end.
6. The official time will be kept with the official scorer in coordination with the umpire and the site director.
7. A new inning starts immediately after the 3rd out of the previous inning.
8. All games are regulation games regardless of how many innings are completed.
9. If the game is tied at the time limit or at the end of 6 innings, then the Texas Tie-Breaker will be used to settle the tie. (See Rules for Texas Tiebreaker).
10. The 10 run rule is in effect per the rule book.
11. No team will be allowed to score more than 5 runs per their turn at bat for the first 3 innings. **Beginning with the 4th inning the five run rule is no longer in effect.** (Runs are unlimited from the 4th inning on). NOTE: The inning ends when the 5th run crosses the plate.....no other runs will count in the inning.
12. **All players present will be listed in the line-up. Only roster players are eligible to play. ALL PLAYERS ON THE LINE-UP SHEET WILL BAT.** (Ex. Batter 1 does not bat again until the last player present bats). No changes in the batting order are allowed once the line-up is set.
 - a. If a player is injured or ill, the site director is to be contacted and that player's spot is simply skipped, with NO out occurring.
 - b. Since all players are listed in the batter order rule 7.14 will not be in effect for this tournament.
13. Players may not sit out more than 1 inning at a time and may not sit out a 2nd inning until all players have sat out 1 inning.
14. No player may sit out 3 innings until all other players have sat out 2 innings, etc. (Sitting out refers to an inning being three outs.)
 - a. One exception: if there is an injury the replacement player will follow the rule per the rule book.
15. **IF A PLAYER SITS OUT MORE THAN TWO INNINGS IN A SIX-INNING GAME OR LESS, THE TEAM IS SUBJECT TO A FORFEIT PER THE SITE DIRECTORS' DECISION.** After reviewing the scorecard and other sources.

16. Each game will feature unlimited substitution. Players may be moved in and out of the game freely with these exceptions:
 - a. Players are meeting the requirement in rule 13.
 - b. Pitchers once removed, as a pitcher, may not return to be a pitcher in the same game.
 - c. Catchers may NOT be pulled for a pinch runner.
 - d. The only defensive player permitted to be removed from the field to the bench is the pitcher; unless the player being removed from the field is injured.
17. Remember a player that is removed from the playing field during an inning the player is charged with an inning on the bench, and not a full inning played. They must return to the game to complete a full inning of play time in the next inning. If that player sat the inning before they cannot come out of the game until one full inning has been played defensively (3 outs). All players remain in the batting order at all times.
18. Managers should keep track of the innings that each player sits in the dugout. Remember players cannot sit more than one inning at a time and no more than 2 innings in the game. The official scorer will be completing a sitting log. Each inning when the defensive team takes the field the manager of the defensive team **is required** to report the player's name and number that are remaining in the dugout. Preplanning the changes is not acceptable with the official scorer.....**YOU must report your changes every inning.** If the scorer or site director sees a violation of this rule occurring, they will correct the situation.
19. If a team fails to field 9 players – it will be up to the site director on how to proceed. Forfeits will be avoided if possible and will be called only if the site or tournament director deems it necessary. The winning team will be credited with 3 - 0 win with 3 defensive innings. If a game is played with borrowed players from the other team – once the game starts it is an official game and will not be a forfeit for failing to field 9 players. This is for the kids to play ball!
20. **A maximum of one minute will be allowed between innings. (Have your pitchers and catchers ready for warm-ups). THIS RULE WILL BE ENFORCED!**
21. Protests - Site Director's decision is final. See rule 4.19 Protesting Game. All decisions by the Site Director are final for this tournament. Protests must be re-solved before the next pitch and time shall continue to run.
22. **Stall tactics will not be tolerated and if the umpire in their judgment feels a team is stalling – the umpire is to eject the accused manager or coach from the game. They must then sit out the next game. This is not protestable and is solely in the hands of the umpire.**
23. It is highly recommended that players play more than one position while playing defensively.
24. **EJECTIONS:** When a manager, coach, or player is ejected from a game, they shall leave the field immediately and take no further part in that game. **EJECTIONS FROM A GAME WILL BE AN AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION FROM THE NEXT GAME IN THE TOURNAMENT.**
25. The rules & schedules are subject to change if teams are added/subtracted before the tournament begins.
26. Scorecards, sitting logs and pitching logs will be used for this tournament.
27. Each team needs to bring a person that can be an official score keeper. The flip of the coin will decide who keeps score – if the team chooses home then they are responsible for supply the volunteer to be the official scorekeeper. The official scorekeeper **MUST** be outside the dugout at all times. If the scorer is a manager or coach then they must do the scoring outside the dugout.
28. Managers will complete line cards for the scorer and opponent. The line cards **MUST HAVE THE PLAYERS FIRST AND LAST NAME, UNIFORM NUMBER AND POSITION PLAYING!**
29. At no time may someone other than a player warm up a pitcher! This is before, during or after the game!
30. Managers should follow the rulebook rules for changing pitchers.

THE TEXAS TIE-BREAKER

1. The visitor will place the last batter that completed their turn at bat in the previous inning on second base with two outs. The game then continues with two outs and a runner on second base.
2. The home team will do the same and this will continue until a winner is determined.
3. The home team will have the last at bat.
4. During a Texas-tiebreaker, the sitting rule stays in effect.
5. **EXCEPT** in the Texas Tiebreaker each out you are required to make substitutions.
6. Each out is considered an inning except in the case of the player who is pitching - the pitcher may pitch two (2) consecutive outs - which is equal to one inning pitched.

THE PITCHING RULES

1. A pitcher may not re-enter a game as a pitcher once they have been removed as a pitcher.
2. Pitching for the tournament does not affect regular season play nor does regular season pitching carry into this tournament
3. The pitcher may finish the batter, **but those extra pitches will count against the total allowed for the day.**

FRIDAY PITCHING RULES

4. Pitchers may only pitch 1 inning or 20 Pitches (Whichever occurs first).
 - a. If a team plays 2 games on Friday ONLY, the team may use the pitchers in each game for a maximum of 1 inning or 20 Pitches (Whichever occurs first) per game.
 - b. IF a pitcher goes in mid-inning for a pitcher who has MAXED out on pitches, then that pitcher may return the next inning to complete his 20 pitches. (Example: Bob has thrown 20 pitches in inning #1 and must be replaced; Steve then comes in and only throws 6 pitches to retire the side. Then Steve MAY return to start Inning #2 and throw 14 more pitches for his total of 20. HOWEVER, IF Bob had retired the side in 11 pitches he may not return for Inning #2. This exception only applies to pitchers brought in mid-inning to replace another pitcher that has reached his maximum.)

SATURDAY PITCHING RULES

5. Pitchers may pitch only 2 innings or 40 pitches (whichever occurs first) in a game on Saturday with a maximum for the day of 3 innings or 60 pitches total.
6. During the Quarter-Final Game, pitchers will be allowed 1 more inning or 20 more pitches to be pitched in the that game in addition to the maximum allowed for the day.

Example: A player may pitch an additional 1 inning or 20 pitches in the Quarter-Final Game which would take him to a total of 4 innings or 80 pitches for Saturday...ONLY if that 4th inning or extra 20 pitches are in the Quarter-Final Game.

PLEASE NOTE that the total Innings pitched in the Quarter Final game will still be 2 Innings or 40 pitches (whichever occurs first).

SUNDAY PITCHING RULES

7. Pitchers may pitch only 2 innings or 40 pitches (whichever occurs first) per game on Sunday, with a maximum for the day of 3 innings or 60 pitches total.

TEXAS TIE-BREAKER PITCHING

8. Texas-tiebreaker Pitching rules. An eligible pitcher may pitch a **maximum** of 2 outs or 20 pitches (whichever occurs first)
9. 1 to 2 outs is to be considered a pitched inning.
10. Texas-Tie breaker innings count towards the total for the day.

HOW THE TOURNAMENT WORKS

- ❖ The first three games are for determining who will continue on in the tournament.
- ❖ The top Eight (8) teams from each division will advance to the quarter finals, Saturday evening to begin a single elimination tournament.
- ❖ If there is a tie with teams advancing, the first tie breaker will be head to head play, if that is not available then the defensive run ratio will be used, if there is still a tie, the Texas Tie Breaker will be used to break the tie.
- ❖ In the quarter-finals teams will not play a team they played earlier in the tournament if at all possible.
- ❖ The winners will advance to the Championship Rounds on Sunday.
- ❖ **All rules will remain the same.**
- ❖ Seeding will be used to determine opponents in the single elimination rounds. The seeding used will be the final seeding for the placement rounds. Example: The #1 seed will maintain that ranking throughout the tournament.
- ❖ All Seedings will be posted on the District 12 Website Saturday after the final pool games are played. Your site director will notify you after your final pool game if there is a possibility of you advancing. **Please make sure the Site Director has the correct contact information for you.**
- ❖ All undefeated teams will always be seeded ahead of a team with a loss regardless of the defensive runs allowed average.
- ❖ If weather causes changes in the schedule the site director will determine if games shall be played or cancelled – or if the Texas Tie-Breaker will be used to determine winners and losers.
- ❖ **FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE RULES OF THIS TOURNAMENT WILL BE CONSIDERED CHEATING AND THEREFORE THE MANAGER OF THE TEAM MAY FACE SUSPENSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TOURNAMENT AS THE DISTRICT 12 STAFF SEES FIT. (IT COULD BE THE ENTIRE COACHING STAFF DEPENDING UPON THE INFRACTION! This shall include all rules, playing, pitching and Texas Tie breaker rules. It is the managers job to understand these rules and play by them.**

**Remember this is for the kids – Let us make it fun for them!
Explain the rules to the parents, if they understand it makes
for a better tournament!**