

## A. FOAL DIVISION RULES

### OVERVIEW:

Santa Ana Pony has four objectives for children playing in the Foal Division:

- 1) Have Fun
- 2) Sportsmanship
- 3) Try your best
- 4) Learn the fundamentals of baseball

Managers and coaches are encouraged to be supportive of players on all teams, exercise patience and remember that these players are at different levels of skills, understanding, and attention span.

### PLAYERS:

1. Uniforms- No player or team shall alter any part of the league issued uniforms, including hats, shirts, socks, or pants.
2. Conduct- Players shall conduct themselves in an orderly manner in the dugout and on the field. Horseplay, profanity, or the behavior deterring from the orderly progression of the game is prohibited.
3. Discipline- For disciplinary reasons, a manager may bench a player before and during a game. When this action has been taken, the manager shall report it to the opposing manager, the plate umpire and the official scorekeeper, citing the player's name and circumstance.
4. When a player is ejected from a game, the player shall leave the field of play immediately and take no further part in the game. The player may sit in the stands and may not be recalled. Any player ejected from the game is suspended for the next scheduled game.

### GAME:

1. Games are limited to 3 innings or the official time limit (1 Hour). No new inning may be started after 45 minutes. Time adherence is critical because we have multiple games scheduled back to back on the Foal Field.
2. It is the manager's responsibility to make sure he has read and is well versed in the rules particular to the division. There are no umpires; it's the responsibility of both Managers from both teams to keep the game flowing.
3. There will be no score kept in this division.
4. There are no walks.
5. Batters shall hit off a batting tee located directly above home plate.
6. Aluminum bats specifically marked for T-ball shall be used. Bats labeled for coach pitch will not be acceptable.
7. The ball will be a RIF level 1 baseball.
8. The home team will provide a game ball as supplied by the league.
9. Protest are not allowed
10. Each team is responsible to help set up the field and to take down the field. No excuses.

11. There will be playoffs at the end of the season. (Only if there is enough interest AND if time allows.
12. Tournament team will be formed (see Shetland 4 rules) (Only if there is enough interest)
13. In the 5th week of the season, introduce the UPM 45 Blue Flame pitching machine to prepare players for the next level up. Use machine at practices only. The settings should be Power lever =1, Micro Adjust = 5, Release block = 1. Managers are encouraged to use the Blue Flame pitching machine in the last 2 games of the season. Managers may choose to not utilize UPM and go straight to the T. Pitches will be 3 off the Machine and 2 off the T.

### **BATTING:**

1. Each team shall bat through the entire lineup one time each half inning. The half inning will be complete once the final batter in the lineup has batted and play has stopped.
2. Players arriving late shall be added to the end of the batting order.
3. Players leaving early regardless of reason will be removed from the batting order.
4. Balls knocked off the batting tee due to the bat hitting the tubing are to be placed on the tee again for another try.
5. There are no strikeouts. After a batter has had 6 swings without hitting the ball into fair territory, the batter can take a base (go to first base).
6. Bunting is not allowed. A batter must take a full swing.
7. There is a minimum distance that a batted ball must travel in order to be a fair ball; the arch in front of the home plate marks this area.
8. Runners may advance only on a batted ball. No extra bases on an overthrow. A second base will be awarded should the batter hit the ball under/bounced over the fence.

### **BASE RUNNING:**

1. No lead offs. Players cannot break contact with the base until the batter hits the ball. PENALTY. The first illegal lead off shall result in a warning to the team of the runner.
2. Sliding is allowed at every base. Coaches are encouraged to teach players to run through 1st base properly; headfirst slides into any base are a safety hazard and runners should be so instructed.
3. A following runner shall not force a runner to the next base.

### **DEFENSE:**

1. Each player must play at least 1 inning in the infield each game. No player may play a second inning at an infield position until every player had played in the infield. In case of a safety issue, coaches are allowed to have a player remain in the outfield (this must be communicated with the parent).
2. The defensive pitcher will play defense from a position within the circle around the pitching rubber. One foot must be completely inside the lines of the circle until the ball is hit. Failure to do so is ruled "no pitch."
3. Teams are limited to 5 players in the infield: Pitcher, First Base, Second Base, Third Base, and Short Stop. Catchers will not be utilized in this Division.
4. Teams are unlimited in the number of players they may have in the outfield.
5. If the play is stopped before the batter safely reaches 1st base, the batter will be safe.

6. An outfielder may tag or force a runner out.

**COACHING & UMPIRING:**

1. While at bat, a team may have a 1B coach, a 2B coach, a 3B coach and a batting coach (for batter safety)
2. There is a maximum of 3 defensive coaches on the field: LF, CF, RF. Additional coaches must remain in the dugout.
3. Prior to start of the game, the managers shall define the playing field boundary. The ball is dead the moment it leaves this defined playing field boundary.

**KEEP OUR FIELDS, PARKS, AND PRACTICE SITES CLEAN**

**\*\*DISCLAIMER REGARDING ALL RULES:** There will be issues and situations that test the integrity of the above listed rules during the season. Please note that the Division Rep and/or the PONY Board reserves the rights to change or modify any of the above items at any time to better serve the division as a whole.

**ANY RULE NOT MENTIONED ABOVE WILL BE REFERRED BACK TO 2015 PONY BASEBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS BOOK.**