

9U & 10U DP Baseball Rules - 2018

Administrative Rules

1. No more than a total of 4 games and/or practices are allowed per calendar week.
2. No more than 4 members of a coaching staff are allowed on the field. For the purpose of this rule, the dugout will be considered a part of the field.
3. A game shall be “called” at the end of 6 innings or 1 hour and 30 minutes. After 1 hr and 30 minutes, the game will be considered a complete game regardless of the number of innings played and no additional inning shall be started. Any inning started will be completed unless the run rule is in effect. If the score is tied at the end of the last completed inning, then the game will be declared a tie.
4. If the game is tied after 6 innings, extra innings may be played as long as no inning begins after 1 hour and 30 minutes.
5. If a game is terminated or suspended for any reason, it shall be considered a complete game if 3 innings of play have been completed, or 2 and one-half innings if the home team is ahead.
6. With 2 outs, the team at bat will use a courtesy runner for the catcher of record only. The catcher of record is the player who occupied the catcher position while the team was last on defense. The courtesy runner will be the player who made the previous out. The intent of this rule is to help avoid unnecessary delays in the game. A courtesy runner is not allowed after time expires unless the team will be required to play defense in the current inning. A courtesy runner is not allowed for the pitcher.
7. 9U bases will be closed.
8. 9U 5 runs per inning with 6th inning open.
9. 10U bases will be open.
10. 10U all innings are open.

Offensive rules

1. A bat that is thrown or released in an unsafe manner is a hazard. If the umpire judges that a batter has released his bat in an unsafe manner, the player and the team manager will be given one warning. The warning should be noted by the player’s name in the official scorebook. If the umpire subsequently judges that the same batter has released the bat in an unsafe manner, the ball will be declared dead, the player’s turn at bat will be terminated, and the player will be removed from the batting lineup for the remainder of the ballgame. The player is not recorded as an out and he is expected to continue to play when his team is on defense.
2. When the pitcher is on the mound, all runners must remain in contact with their base until the pitch reaches home plate during play in the 9U Division. 10U will be play with open bases and not be subject to this rule. In the event the age groups must be combined, half of the season will be played under 9U regulations with the second half of the season being played under the 10U regulations.

3. If the batter does not hit the pitch and/or does not put the ball in play, and if any runner leaves early, the runner who left early will be declared out. All other runners will be returned to the base occupied at the time of the pitch. The pitch will be recorded as a ball or strike, as indicated by the umpire.

4. If the batter hits the pitch and/or puts the ball in play, and if any runner leaves early, this will result in a delayed dead ball situation. The **defense** will be allowed to choose the result of continuous action, or they may choose a ruling of “No Pitch”. If “No Pitch” is chosen, any runner who left early will be declared out. All other runners will be returned to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.
5. When a tag play is evident, the runner must slide or seek to avoid contact with the fielder. Attempting to jump, leap, or dive over the fielder is not interpreted as seeking to avoid contact. Malicious contact shall supersede all obstruction penalties. Ruling: if contact occurs and there is no attempt to slide or avoid contact, the runner will be declared out. The runner will be ejected if the umpire judges the contact to be malicious or intentional.
6. If a batter shows bunt, he may not swing at the pitch. He may either attempt to bunt the ball, or he may take the pitch for a called ball or strike. Ruling: The batter is out, the ball is dead, and all runners will return to the base occupied at the time of pitch.
7. The “third strike not caught” rule is not in effect. If the batter swings and misses or takes a called third strike, the batter is out whether the ball is caught or not.

Defensive rules

1. Pitching eligibility will be governed by Pony Baseball Rule.
2. An intentional walk may be awarded based upon announcement of the pitcher or catcher. This may be done at any time during the player’s At Bat. No individual player may be intentionally walked more than once in the same game.
3. Teams may play with a maximum of 9 fielders while on defense if the age groups are combined. A maximum of 6 players may be positioned in the infield and a maximum of 4 players may be positioned in the outfield. For the purpose of this rule, the outfield is defined as the area beginning 20 feet behind the base path.