

2nd/ 3rd Grade Boys Baseball Rules

Territorial Sports Program
Revised 4/2023

NFHS rules apply except for the following exceptions:

1. Home team sits on the 3rd base side.
 - Athletes' parents should sit on their team side and are not allowed behind the home plate area.
 - When sitting in between field #3 and #4 at Bolton Hill Sports Complex, people must sit behind the white line.
 - Scorekeepers should remain close to the bench area so scorebooks can be compared between innings.
 - Coaches - when on Defense, you will coach from the bench area behind the fence.
 - Base coaches will remain in the Coaches Box until a dead ball is called.
 - No parents, coaches, or players behind the backstops.
2. When warming up for games, there is no infield or batting practices at Bolton
3. Start time is 6:15. The game will consist of 6 innings. **No new innings after 90 minutes.**
 - If there is 5mins left of play time, a new inning should be played unless there is no way to catch up.
4. Regulation youth baseball will be used. The base length will be 60'. No restriction on bat length, size, or weight.
5. Pitching machines will be used:
 - positioned at 40' from home plate
 - Pitching speed set to set to 55 ft/sec (37.5mph), and increased mid-season to 60 ft/sec (40.9mph).
 - The umpire can adjust the machine at the top of the inning. They will adjust it to the throw about belt height.
6. Batter gets no more than 3 practice swings. The batter gets 4 pitches and cannot be walked. Foul balls result in another pitch. (batter must hit the ball or be struck out). When bunting on 3rd strike and it is foul, this is a strike.
7. The batter/runner may **NOT** run on a dropped third strike. The batter is out!
8. Any time that a game is called during an inning because of the time limit, weather, field conditions, etc., the score always reverts back to the score of the last completed inning.
9. Each team must bat their entire roster. Players must wear their helmet until they reach the bench area.

10. **5 Run Rule:** An inning is over when the team hitting scores 5 runs or the team fielding scores 3 outs.

11. **Runners/Stealing:** A runner may lead off when the ball crosses the plate. One warning per team will be given for runners leaving the base early. After that, it will be an out. Runners can steal all bases except HOME. Runners at 3rd base may only advance home on a hit ball. **No stealing HOME!**

12. **International Tie Breaker:** In the event of a tie at the end of six innings or the 90 minutes, the ITB rule goes into effect. The intent of the ITB is to provide accelerating scoring opportunities and to bring the game to a speedier conclusion. The team on offense will start the inning with a runner on 2nd base. The runner is the batter who was last out in the previous inning. Only 1 full inning will be played. If the game is still tied at the end of the completed inning, the game will end in a tie.

13. All catchers must wear a mask with throat protection, helmet, chest & shin protection during practices and games.

14. Player positions:

- 1st and 3rd base players must play their position, and can play 15' down the line.
- Shortstop and 2nd base players must play 3ft in front or back of the baseline.
- Pitchers, 1st, and 3rd can charge on a bunt as soon as it comes out of the machine.

15. **All players must play 3 full innings of a 6 inning game.** A full inning is defined as a play in the field. If a player is not playing for disciplinary reasons, the Sports Director and parent must be informed 24hrs in advance of the game (email or call, not through text), and the umpire must be informed before the game starts.

16. Hustle your team in and out between innings.

17. No tobacco, alcohol, or drug use by any player, coach, or spectator during the game.

18. No throwing the bat! After a warning, it will result in an out being called.

19. **Rain Out Info:** Games will be called no later than 1-hour before the start time.

20. **Good sportsmanship will be displayed at all times. Coaches, players, parents, or fans arguing with an umpire may result in an out for that team or ejection from the game. Only positive chants will be allowed!**

4th/5th/6th Grade Boys Baseball Rules

Territorial Sports Program

Revised 3/2024

NFHS rules apply except for the following exceptions:

1. Home team sits on the 3rd base side.
 - Athletes' parents should sit on their team side
 - Coaches must stay in the Coaches Box until a dead ball or time is called.
 - No parent or coaches behind the backstop at any time a game is going on.
 - Scorekeepers should remain close to the bench area so scorebooks can be compared between innings.
2. Start time is 6:15. Games will have 6 innings, with a **90 minute time limit**. The umpire shall declare the last inning before the time limit and the last inning shall be open. **No new innings after 90 minutes. Games cannot end in a tie.**
 - If there is 5mins left of play time, a new inning should be played unless there is no way to catch up.
3. In case of rain, 4 full innings will be considered a game. If a game is called due to the time limit, it will be considered a full game as long as one inning has been completed.
4. Regulation youth baseball will be used. Distance to the pitching mound is 46-foot, 60-foot bases.
5. All players must play 3 full innings of a 6-inning game. A full inning is defined as a play in the field. If a player is not playing for disciplinary reasons, the umpire must be informed before the game starts.
6. Pitching substitution rules: The pitcher does not have to remain on the field in order to come back and pitch in the same game. This is different than High School. Please be aware sometimes a player's arm can get tight after sitting a couple of innings. Make sure your players warm up before sending them back into the game.
7. If a pitcher walks or hits 3 consecutive batters, the pitcher must be replaced but may return after the relief pitcher has pitched to at least 1 batter.
8. Pitchers can pitch 4 innings per game/seven innings per week. Innings are to be recorded on the Roster sheet that is submitted to the equipment room after every game. TSP tournament weekend - 4 innings per game / 12 innings total for the weekend.
9. An inning will end when a maximum of five (5) runs per team are scored, or 3 outs have been made.

10. Each team must bat their entire roster.
11. The batter/runner may not run on a dropped third strike.
12. Runners may lead off after the ball crosses home plate. One warning per team will be given for runners leaving the base early. After that, it will be an out. Runners may steal all bases.
13. **International Tie Breaker:** In the event of a tie at the end of six innings or the 90 minutes, the ITB rule goes into effect. The intent of the ITB is to provide accelerating scoring opportunities and to bring the game to a speedier conclusion. The team on offense will start the inning with a runner on 2nd base. The runner is the batter who was last out in the previous inning. Only 1 full inning will be played. If the game is still tied at the end of the completed inning, the game will end in a tie.
14. **Infield Fly Rule:** This rule will apply when there is only 0 or 1 out and when there are runners at 1st & 2nd or the bases are loaded. If a fair infield fly ball is in play, and in the umpire's judgment is catchable by an infielder, the umpire shall call "infield fly, the batter is out" and the batter will be out regardless of whether the ball is actually caught.
 - If "infield fly, the batter is out" is called and the fly ball is caught, it is treated exactly as an ordinary caught fly ball. The batter is out, there is no force, and the runners must tag up.
 - If "infield fly, the batter is out" is called and the ball lands fair without being caught, the batter is still out, there is still no force, BUT the runners are not required to tag up.
15. The **10-run rule will apply after 5 innings.**
16. All catchers must wear a mask with throat protection, helmet, chest, and shin protection while catching, including warm-ups. All male catchers shall wear their own protective cup.
17. No tobacco, alcohol, or drug use by any players, coaches, or spectators during games.
18. **Good sportsmanship will be displayed at all times. Coaches, players, parents, or fans arguing with an umpire may result in an out for that team or ejection from the game. Only positive chants will be allowed!**