

Louisiana USSSA Baseball Tournament Rules

Effective March 1, 2010
(Amendments March 15, 2010)
(Amendments April 21, 2010)

- 1) These rules are in effect for baseball events in Louisiana unless posted/advertised by host and approved by the USSSA State Office.
- 2) These rules apply to all USSSA Qualifiers, Global Sports Qualifiers and NIT's.
- 3) Rules not addressed here, can be found in the USSSA Baseball By-Laws.
- 4) Scorebook - The home team is responsible for keeping the official scorebook.
- 5) Rosters
 - a) All teams must have roster on-line before they start their first game.
 - b) Adding players may effect your classification.
- 6) If a team's class is changed after entering an event, it is the manager's responsibility to notify the host.
- 7) Batting Order
 - a) EH (Extra Hitter) is allowed in all age groups. The EH shall be considered a starter. A team using an EH will have 10 players in their lineup at all times. Teams wishing to use the EH must declare so before the game.
 - b) Teams may bat all players present, but if a player is unable to bat for any reason, that player will be declared out.
 - c) If not batting your roster, starters may reenter once per game. Substitutes may not reenter.
 - d) Free defensive substitution allowed if batting your roster, but all pitching limitations must still be followed.
 - e) A team may start a game with as few as 8 players, but they can not go to 7 players. Teams will take an out if they don't have an eligible player to appear in a batting position based on the standard starting positions on Defense.
 - i) 8U and Under – 10 Positions
 - (1) If Batting 9 - The 10th position would be an out.
 - (2) If Batting 8 - The 9th and 10th position would be outs.
 - ii) 9U and Above – 9 Positions
 - (1) If Batting 8 – The 9th Position would be an out.
- 8) Game Times:
 - a) 6U - 8U - 1:00 / 6 innings
 - b) 9U - 12U - 1:30 / 6 Innings
 - c) 13U & 14U - 1:40 / 7 Innings
 - d) Add 10 minutes to above time for all championship games
- 9) Run Rules:
 - a) 6-Inning game(12U and Below):
 - i) After 3 Innings – 15 Runs
 - ii) After 4 Innings – 8 Runs
 - b) 7-Inning game(13U and Above):
 - i) After 3 Innings – 15 Runs
 - ii) After 4 Innings – 12 Runs
 - iii) After 5 Innings - 8 Runs
- 10) Pool Play Tie Breaker Guidelines:
 - a) Win-Loss Record
 - b) Head to Head
 - c) Fewest Runs Allowed
 - d) Run Differential
 - e) USSSA Points
 - f) Coin Flip
 - g) NOTE: If a forfeit occurs or even number of games can't be played in pool play, then the team's average of the games played will be used to determine seeding.
 - h) Forfeit in Pool Play may result in team not advancing to Championship Bracket. Teams no showing will be seeded last.

11) **Pitching**

- a) Once a pitcher is removed from the pitching position during a game, he/she cannot return to the pitching position even if he was removed to be pinch hit for.
- b) Pitching Rules and Limitations: Please refer to 2010 USSSA Rule Book located online at www.ussa.com for current pitching limitations.
- c) Once a pitching card is signed by both coaches it is official.
- d) Pitching Limitations:

Age	One Day Max to Pitch and Pitch Next Day	One Day Maximum	Three Day Maximum
7U-12U	3	6	8
13U-14U	3	7	8

12) **Courtesy Runners**

- a) Allowed for the pitcher and catcher of record from the previous inning.
- b) If there is a player not currently in the game, that person will run for the pitcher/catcher.
- c) If there is not a person on the bench who is currently not in the game, then the last **batted** out will run.

13) **Slide Rule** - There is no mandatory slide rule, but whenever a tag play is evident, a runner must slide or seek to avoid contact with the fielder and / or catcher. Attempting to jump, leap, or dive over the fielder and / or catcher is not interpreted as seeking to avoid contact. Malicious contact shall supersede all obstruction penalties.

14) **Protest**

- a) \$100 cash must accompany protest.
- b) If protest is upheld and a ruling is overturned, protest fee is returned.

15) **Metal Cleats** are allowed in ages 13 and up. Please check with tournament host to see if they are allowed on portable mounds.

16) **Ejections**

- a) Anyone ejected from a game must sit out the next game.
- b) Being confined to the dugout is not considered an ejection.

17) **Coach/Machine Pitch**

- a) Players get 3 swinging strikes or 6 pitches.
- b) Foul balls will extend an at bat as long as they have pitches left.

18) **Delays/Rain Outs**

- a) If delays occur, then the tournament director will determine the best way to seed teams.
- b) In the event a tournament cannot be completed after it has started, place/points may be awarded based on games played.
- c) **Rain Out Policy** - if a team has started their first game then there is a 40% refund. If the team has started their second game there is no refund. If a rain out occurs before any games begin then entry fee minus \$100 refunded. A minimum of \$100 will be retained. If events have a different policy, it will be posted by the event.

19) **7U thru 10U Brackets** - Classifications may be combined without notice to teams at any event.

20) **Team Classification** – A teams' classification may be adjusted at anytime including during the season. If players are added to a roster, it may effect the classification of the team. It is the managers' responsibility to follow the guidelines. If a team is found to be playing in the wrong class, it could mean removal from an event even if it's during the event.

21) **Entering Tournaments**

- a) **Tournament Host** should inform teams by Wednesday if there is a possibility that an event may not make.
- b) **Teams Withdrawing From Events** – Any team that withdraws from an event after 12NOON on Wednesday may be responsible for the entry fee or appropriate fee set by the tournament host and approved by the state office. The team is also not allowed to play in another event that weekend. Some facilities and certain events may have other guidelines that are higher on the penalty and withdrawing deadline may be earlier.

22) **Tournament Director** has the ability to adopt or modify any of these rules as needed during the course of the event with the approval of the State Office.