

# Burleson Youth Association

[www.bya.org](http://www.bya.org)



## Baseball Rules

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## SEASONS

### **SPRING:**

4U: Season will consist of playing between 8 and 10 games

5U – 14U: Season will consist of 12-14 games

15U – 19U: Season will consist of 10-12 games

### **FALL:**

4U: Season will consist of playing between 8 and 10 games

5U – 14U: Season will consist of 10-12 games plus end of season tournament

15U – 19U: Season will consist of 8-10 games plus end of season tournament

## SIGN UPS

Beginning with the Fall season and continuing into the following Spring season, a player's league age is defined to be that player's age on April 30<sup>th</sup> of the Spring season.

BYA Rec Baseball is sanctioned through PONY Baseball.

### **Pony Baseball Divisions:**

Shetland is 5U, 6U

Pinto is 7U, 8U

Mustang is 9U, 10U

Bronco is 11U, 12U

Pony is 13U, 14U

In addition, BYA also has Grapefruit Division that is for 4 years of age.

In addition, BYA has HS age Division for 15U through 18U

### **SPRING / FALL:**

If sufficient players exist, divisions will be league age specific. League Age Specific means that players that are 5 will play in the Shetland 5U league, unless parents approve them to play up in 6u with the 6year old players.

### **PLAY UP OPTION:**

You may elect for your child to "Play-up" ONE age division. (Example: A 7u Pinto player may opt to "play-up" to 8u Pinto **OR** an 8u Pinto player may opt to "play-up" to 9u Mustang **NOTE:** a 7u Pinto player will NOT be allowed to "play-up to 9u Mustang) This is NOT recommended by BYA, but is the Parents choice.

All players who register before the deadline will get to participate in the league. If there are not enough volunteer coaches based on the amount of kids enrolled, it is possible that there could be more than 12 players per team. If enough coaches exist, 12 would be the maximum number of players per team.

## **SIGN UPS (continued)**

**Each player is entitled to indicate on their signup form the name of ONE coach for which they do NOT want to play. That coach may not draft the player UNLESS the league will only have two teams.**

### **BROTHERS AND SISTERS**

If siblings will play in the same age division they will be automatically drafted to same team (unless they opt out)

### **RIDESHARE POLICY**

There will be **NO** ride shares guaranteed (including cousins, nieces, nephews, neighbors, friends, etc).

### **SPRING ONLY:**

All players returning to the same PONY division as the previous spring will be placed with their returning Coach (unless that Coach is listed as NOT WANTED or the player chooses to re-enter the draft).

### **FALL ONLY:**

There are no returning teams in the fall.

### **COACHES:**

Baseball and Softball Coaches returning to the same age division as the previous spring will be awarded a team before new coaches or coaches moving into the division. Baseball and Softball coaches from the previous spring will then be awarded teams (based on the points system) before those that were not coaching the respective sport the previous spring. Remaining positions will be filled with coaches from softball or baseball based on accumulated points.

*Any rules infraction or Code of Conduct violation by any baseball coach could result in loss of points at the sole discretion of their respective sports committee.*

Assuming that a coach is in good standing with the BYA, selections for Baseball and Softball will be made on a seniority basis as follows.

**SPRING SEASON: HEAD COACH 3 POINTS**  
**ASSISTANT COACH 2 POINTS**

**ALL-STARS: HEAD COACH 2 POINTS**  
**ASSISTANT COACH 1 POINTS**

**FALL SEASON: HEAD COACH 2 POINTS**  
**ASSISTANT COACH 1 POINTS**

## DRAFT RULES

The Baseball Committee or their authorized designates will oversee the draft.

Team draft order will be determined by a drawing at the draft site. Draft order will alternate each round (i.e., first round 1-10, second round 10-1, third round 1-10) with each Coach joining the draft during the first round they are eligible for a pick.

Unless there are only 2 teams in a league, each player is entitled to indicate on their signup form the name of 1 coach for which they do not want to play. **That coach may not draft that player under any circumstances.**

### **RETURNING TEAMS – Allowed only from Spring to Spring in same PONY division**

Coaches returning to the same PONY baseball division as they coached in the previous Spring will automatically get all returning players from that team who do not opt out of playing for that team again. Returning players will be listed in the FRONT blocks available for the draft, and the Coach will sit out the same number of rounds in the draft as the number of players he/she has returning. Rule also applies to assistant coaches stepping into the head coach role on the team. In either case, Coach may receive one exemption if an exempted player from the prior Spring season is no longer with the team.

3 or more Returning players whose previous coach is not coaching in the same PONY baseball division will be kept together as a team and given to a new Coach as a group. Any coach may elect to have any of the full rosters listed without coaches. Those names will be placed in the END blocks available for the draft. A new Coach that is assuming a returning group will still be allowed 2 exemptions. **NOTE:** If the Coach that selects this group of kids is listed as Coach NOT wanted then the player that listed the coach as NOT wanted will be removed and placed in the draft.

If more than 1 coach requests the same roster, the names of coaches will be placed in hat and will be drawn for roster. Any complete rosters not picked up upon request of any coach at that league, will stay together and be assigned coaches by the following method.

1. Any new coaches without rosters will draw a roster from drawing.
2. Teams with roster spot availability will be placed in a drawing, and rosters will be assigned to those that are selected.

A New Coach will follow the same draft rules as returning Coaches except he/she will be allowed to exempt his/her own child plus one other player under the exemption rule. Exempted players plus the returning players will count as "rounds" of picks.

Returning Coaches who wish that their child plays in only the Younger League may decline an Older League team, but in doing so, forfeit their right to their returning players. That Coach will then be placed on the Coaches waiting list with the other qualified candidates and may be awarded a team based on the point system used for incoming Coaches.

## **DRAFT RULES (continued)**

Provided there are sufficient coaches available, there will be a maximum of 12 players per team. Once the draft has occurred, any additional players (waiting list) will be appointed to teams as needed. It is the responsibility of the Coach to monitor his or her online roster to incorporate all players into team activities as quickly as possible.

### **EXEMPTIONS**

#### **FALL ONLY:**

Coach will be allowed to exempt four players. If the coach has a child playing in the league, that child must be one of the exemptions. Otherwise, the exemptions may be any child who consents to play for that coach. If the head coach has two children playing in the league, an additional exemption will be allowed. Only 1 set of siblings will be allowed as exemptions. **Exemptions who are not the coach's child must be submitted in writing, signed by the coach and the player's parent, at the league draft.** Exemptions will be exercised after the draft order has been established but before beginning the draft.

#### **SPRING ONLY:**

Each **non-returning** Coach will be allowed to exempt three players. If the coach has a child playing in the league, that child must be one of the exemptions. Otherwise, the exemptions may be any child who consents to play for that coach. If the head coach has two children playing in the league, an additional exemption will be allowed. Only 1 set of siblings will be allowed as exemptions. **Exemptions who are not the coach's child must be submitted in writing, signed by the coach and the player's parent, at the league draft.** Exemptions will be exercised after the draft order has been established but before beginning the draft.

### **BROTHERS AND SISTERS**

When a first brother or sister is drafted and an option submitted the coach must take the other sibling at the first opportunity.

### **SPRING/FALL LEAGUE NEW COACH TAKING OVER A TEAM AFTER THE DRAFT**

When a new coach comes into the league and his or her child has previously been drafted on another team, the new coach may obtain his or her child for their team only under the following circumstances:

1. That the position of coach of his or her child's team is already filled.
2. The new coach surrenders his or her team's most equal draft selection to his or her child's former team.

## **DRAFT RULES (continued)**

### **REPLACEMENT OF A PERMANENTLY LOST PLAYER**

When a team coach permanently loses a roster player for any reason, they must immediately inform the Vice President of Baseball or his designee of the lost player's name and the reason for the loss. The following steps will be taken:

1. Contact the lost player, if possible, to verify his/her permanent loss and the reason for the loss. If the loss is due to a complaint with the coach, the situation will be reviewed by the Baseball Committee for possible disciplinary action.
2. Replace the lost player as soon as possible with a player at the top of the waiting list (if applicable players exist).

## **INTERLOCKING GUIDLINES**

Any organization wishing to play Rec Baseball with Burleson Youth Association must adhere to the following conditions in order to participate:

1. If more than 1 team per division exists, must have drafts similar to our above draft rules and that both organizations may witness the draft process. This is not necessary, if only 1 team is in that division.
2. The organization wishing to play will be responsible for ALL fees that Burleson Youth Association Teams pay providing all games are played in Burleson. If fields are used are located in other cities, modified concession stand fee will apply. The use of other location fields must be approved before that season starts by VP-Baseball.
3. The visiting organization must pay for half of umpire fee of each game that each team plays.
4. The visiting organization must reimburse BYA for awards given to players for season/tournament play.
5. Each team will provide baseballs for when they are the HOME team listed.
6. At each game, a Scorekeepers box representative must sit at score table to be scorekeeper for HOME games and scoreboard operator for AWAY listed games.
7. Everything above listed and any other conditions to participate needs to be in writing prior to the season start.
8. Must adhere to all BYA code of conduct and baseball rules for that season.
9. Failure to comply with any written conditions signed at beginning of season could result in discontinuing participation with our league at the conclusion of the season.

## EQUIPMENT

Equipment Pick Up – Coach or designate will bring check made out to BYA for \$200.00 as a deposit for equipment. This check will be given to BYA Equipment Director or his/her designate.

Equipment Turn In -- Coach or designate will bring Equipment back to BYA when season completes (dates to be determined by BYA Equipment Director), and their \$200.00 check will be returned.

**CAUTION:** If equipment is not turned in when final request date has been past, the following will take place:

1. Your \$200.00 check will be deposited
2. Any Coach not fulfilling their responsibilities will not be in good standing with BYA and will not be able to be a volunteer with BYA in any capacity in any sport, or position.

## **PLAYER EQUIPMENT**

**MAXIMUM BAT BARREL DIAMETER IS 2 5/8". NO 2 3/4" BARREL BATS WILL BE ALLOWED IN LEAGUE OR END-OF-SEASON TOURNAMENT PLAY.**

Batters Helmets are mandatory for all batters, on-deck batters, base runners and players coaching first or third base in any BYA league play.

In the interest of safety for all players, metal cleats will NOT be allowed in Grapefruit(4u) through Bronco(12u) Leagues.

**Catchers in all baseball will wear full gear.** ALL CATCHERS MUST WEAR SOME TYPE OF THROAT PROTECTION. The extended chin guard of the newer masks meets this requirement. No "skullcaps" will be allowed for catchers at any level of play except the Colt and Palomino divisions. When a temporary fence is in use any ball from foul line to fence beyond temporary fence is a dead ball.

## CONCESSIONS

All Participants of BYA will be responsible for a portion of their teams Concession Buyout which will be turned in by coach at the requested Money Turn in date. The cost of doing so will be set by the Board. The current rate per team for all age divisions (except Grapefruit) for baseball/softball for spring/fall is \$150. The rate per team for Grapefruit Age League is \$75.

## UNIFORMS

BYA provides uniforms consisting of pants, shirt, and cap in the Spring league and shirt/cap in the Fall League. All teams will be required to wear these uniforms as provided. No enhancements (**example, but not limited to, ripping sleeves off shirts, adding names to uniforms**) will be allowed with the exception of socks, belts and the Sponsors name on the back of the shirt. Hats are permitted to have number put on it for identification.

## **GROUNDS RULES**

The City of Burleson has asked the BYA to remind its members that soft toss or hitting a hard baseball or softball into the fence is prohibited at all times. Also, the city would like to remind everyone that the fields at Chisenhall Park are for game use only. No practice is allowed at any time on these fields (this goes for the day use fields as well).

All league teams playing through BYA at Chisenhall must have correct credentials (BADGE) to be on field or in dugouts. Anyone that is on field or in dugout who is not a player must have taken a Coaches Class clinic 1 time to receive the Coaching credential, and must have completed the background check process successfully to receive necessary background check credentials in the calendar year of play. Coaching participants must have badge on and visible at all times (unless coach is Pitching – it may be tucked away under shirt, but must be presented if asked).

## **WARM UP AREAS**

Coaches may warm up their players in an area of the park away from spectators 30 minutes prior to game time. No batting practice is allowed in the park. **THERE WILL BE NO BALL PRACTICE OR WARM UP IN SPECTATOR AREAS (this includes all sidewalks and walkways).**

Warms up are to take place on grass areas only.

Pre-game wiffle ball pitching, hitting nets, and hit sticks are permitted.

## **RAIN OUTS**

A representative of the City of Burleson Parks and Recreation Department and, if possible, a representative of Burleson Youth Association will meet at Chisenhall Fields to determine the playability of the fields and make a joint determination on that days games.

The rainout line (817-203-8534) will be updated no later than 4:00 PM on the day in question if games have been canceled. Vice President of Baseball, Vice President of Softball, or their approved designate and the head Umpire will decide all postponements during play. All make-up games will be scheduled by the Vice President of Baseball, Vice President of Softball, or their designated representative.

## GENERAL RULES

### **PRACTICE SCHEDULES (SPRING/FALL)**

**No more than 3 scheduled or unscheduled practices and/or games per week.** A Coach will conduct a minimum of two activities (practices combined with games) per week throughout the practice and game segments of the season, weather permitting. 1/3 of a team with adult supervision together practicing constitutes a practice. Each practice will be limited to **2 hour maximum per session.**

Game day warm-ups are limited to no more than 30 minutes prior to your game at the ballpark. No additional practice and/or batting practice permitted prior to a game on Game Day. Batting Practice consists of a meeting of 1/3 or more of the team at an alternate location on game day.

If 3 or more games are scheduled in one week, the Coach has an option to hold 1 practice in that week. Rescheduled games can cause more than 3 games in 1 week.

Coaches in violation will be subject to automatic next game suspension and will be warned of exclusion as an All-Star Coach for that year and/or coaching a team the following year. Such penalty can be set-aside only by petition for reconsideration and further action by the Baseball Committee.

WEEK IS DEFINED AS 7 DAYS - SUNDAY THROUGH THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY.

### **PLAYER DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

A player may be excluded from one game for continual unexcused absents from practice or games, profanity, or violent behavior. The Coach must show this is a persistent problem and not an isolated incident. When possible, a parent or guardian must be warned before action becomes eminent. The Coach **MUST** obtain approval from their League Commissioner **BEFORE** using this action. That officer must initial the game summary at the time of the game in question. The failure of the coach to follow this procedure will result in disciplinary action being taken against the coach.

#### **PLAYER EJECTION:**

If a player is ejected during the last inning of a game for any reason they will be required to serve an additional game suspension; to be served at the next scheduled game. The Coach of the ejected player is required to notify the League Official (VP, Commissioner, or On Duty Person) immediately following the game in question. The failure of the coach to follow this procedure will result in disciplinary action being taken against the coach.

### **COACH DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

If a Coach is ejected from any regular season game, he/she shall serve a one game suspension; to be served at the next scheduled game. The ejected coach will need to file an email notice the VP-Baseball or Commissioner within 24 hours of incident or prior to next scheduled game. The incident may be reviewed by the respective sports Committee for possible additional action. Only relevant testimony and both coaches and both umpires will be heard.

#### **COACH EJECTION:**

If a Coach is ejected 2 times in ONE Recreational season (ie: ejected 2 times in Spring season, including end of season tournament). That coach will serve a ONE YEAR suspension from any participation at Chisenhall Ballpark.

## GENERAL RULES (continued)

### **PROTESTS**

The Coach must pay a PROTEST FEE of \$25.00 at the time of the protest to a BYA Board Member or the on duty designate. The Protest Committee will consist of three members: the head umpire from the game in question, plus two BYA Baseball Committee members (or BYA board members if Baseball Committee members are not available). No protest will be accepted in Shetland and Pinto leagues.

**NOTE:** Protests may NOT be made due to Umpires judgement calls (ex: calls for balls and strikes, safe or out at bases, etc)

### **HOME AND VISITING TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES**

The HOME team will occupy the third base dugout. The HOME team will provide the official scorekeeper and 2 game balls to the Head Umpire. The VISITOR team will provide a person to keep the scoreboard. VISITOR for the first game of the day will pick up the scoreboard and T (if required) at the umpire room; VISITOR for the last game of the day will return the scoreboard and T (if required) to the umpire room. Teams will not enter the dugout until the previous teams have cleared their equipment and trash from the dugout. **At the conclusion of the game, coaches from both teams will sign off on the CLEAR score of game in the scorebook. NOTE: Failure of Coaches to follow this procedure can result in disciplinary action being taken against the Coach.**

At the pregame meeting a designated spokesman will be identified and that person will be the only one allowed to talk to umpires or argue calls during the game.

### **LINEUPS AND SCOREKEEPERS**

Lineups should be presented to the official scorekeeper at least 10 minutes before game time. If there are no official Scorekeeper 10 minutes after scheduled game time, the home team will forfeit the game. The Official Scorebook will be kept complete.

Scorekeepers are required to record the name and uniform number of each pitcher/catcher and the number of innings they pitch/catch. 1 pitch = 1 inning. **NOTE:** This is a requirement for Mustang 9u – Palomino 18u. Failure of Scorekeepers to follow this procedure can in result in disciplinary action being taken against the Coach.

Umpires will not start game before both scoreboard operator and scorekeeper are sitting next to each other at the scorer's desk. The Umpires have been instructed to treat as a forfeit if this does not take place before Forfeit time designations for players. Forfeits because of this rule will be reviewed by the Baseball Committee for possible repercussions against the coach.

Both coaches can log in to their accounts and post scores, or this can be done by baseball committee member on duty.

It is recommended scorekeeper and scoreboard operator are of at least 14 years of age.

## **RULES GOVERNING PLAY**

### **PLAYER PLAYING TIME**

**It is the policy of the BYA REC that each player on a team must be a starter in at least every other game.**

BYA REC players must play every other inning in the field.

The only exceptions to these rules are injury, illness, games shortened according to time limit, run rule or in cases of player disciplinary action.

### **GAME TIME & PLAYER REQUIREMENTS**

All game times are listed on the official schedule. A team that is not ready to play 10 minutes after scheduled game time will forfeit the game.

Teams will be allowed to play with as few as seven players without forfeiting. Automatic out(s) will be taken at the eighth and ninth spots in the lineup unless agreement to waive is granted by the opposing coach. The same applies for teams dropping below 9 players during the course of a game.

For all games, any player showing up late can be inserted into the bottom of the lineup. This is true regardless of whether or not the complete original lineup has batted.

Any player present for the resumption of a suspended game, who was not in the line-up for the original beginning of the game, will be added to the bottom of the line-up. Any player not available, who was originally in the line-up, will be marked out with no penalty given unless the team has dropped below nine players

### **TIME LIMIT**

The umpire shall keep the official time and will announce the starting time of the game to both coaches and the official scorekeeper.

For the purpose of this rule, the new inning starts as soon as the third out is made in the previous inning.

### **BATTER / BASE-RUNNER RULES**

In the interest of safety, in ALL age divisions players will not be allowed to show bunt, then attempt to "slap hit" past the charging infielders. A player attempting this will be ruled out by the umpire.

Crashing into any fielder or catcher who is holding the ball waiting to make a tag shall result in the runner automatically being declared out. If in the opinion of the Umpire, the contact is malicious or flagrant, the runner shall be immediately ejected from the game. If in the opinion of the Umpire, the runner's interference prevented a second out on a double play attempt, the second runner will also be declared out by the Umpire.

## LEAGUE CHAMPION AND AWARDS

**SPRING:** The best win-loss record in the regular season will decide the League Champion.

**FALL:** Winner of the Season End Tournament will be the League Champion. The best win-loss record in the regular season will decide seeding for tournament, and higher seed/top of bracket will be the home team for all games until the Championship. In the event of ties, head to head record will decide seed, followed by runs allowed, then runs scored. If still tied, a coin flip by League Commissioner will decide the seeding. For Championship Game, winner's bracket submission will be HOME. If an additional game is needed to determine the champion, HOME team will be determined by coin flip. Necessity of this game will be determined by both coaches involved and the VP-Baseball (or designate).

Grapefruit League (4u) is a noncompetitive league and will not have place awards or tournament. All players in this league will receive a participation award.

All Leagues (except Grapefruit) will have a Champions 1<sup>st</sup> Place award per team player

Leagues with 5 teams or more will have a 2<sup>nd</sup> Place award per team player.

Leagues with 7 teams or more will have a 3<sup>rd</sup> Place award per team player.

All players in the 5u, 6u, 7u and 8u age leagues that did not receive an award will be awarded a participation award.

There will be no participation awards for 9u – 18u

## **SPRING/FALL ADDITIONAL LEAGUE RULES**

### **GRAPEFRUIT LEAGUE RULES**

Any player considered to be “league age 4” is eligible. Because of the “play-up” provision, players with a league age of 3 may play, but parents should gauge their child’s development level when considering playing as a 3U player. Teams will play a minimum of two inning’s batting the entire order in each inning. After the entire lineup has batted in an inning, teams will change sides regardless of whether 3 outs have been obtained. Time limit for these games will be a drop dead time of 45 minutes as long as both teams have batted their entire line up twice (2 innings). Umpires are not used for this league, and scores are not kept. This league is strictly developmental and should be treated as such. Batters will bat each time until putting the ball into play. There are no strike outs. It is recommended that no player play the same position more than once in a game, and all players must play at least every other inning in the infield. Coaches are encouraged to be on the field both offensively and defensively to help instruct players. Wins, losses, outs and runs are not kept in this league. Baseball pants are not supplied nor required for this league. If a player is out, he/she is allowed to continue running the bases. The team will continue to bat the entire line up each inning regardless of the number of outs.

## SHETLAND (5u AND 6u)

1. All players on team will bat in the order listed on your lineup at game time.
2. Entire Roster may play on defense. No matter how many players are playing, deployment can ONLY BE as follows: 4 Infielders, 1 Pitcher, 1 Catcher, and remaining players are to be deployed in outfield (at outfield depth). OUTFIELDERS cannot cover bases, make tags, and the ball must be “thrown in” to an infielder, pitcher or catcher.
3. Six innings or time limit “1 Hour”. Game won’t be stopped early, except for weather or run rule.
4. Five runs per inning.
5. Ties stand in the regular season.
6. 1 offensive time out per inning.
7. 2 defensive time outs per inning.
8. 1 coach on field immediately for injury. Play continues.
9. The ball is dead when in possession of an infielder in the infield and play has stopped and the Umpire calls time. A fielder holding up the ball does not constitute a dead ball and the runners may continue to advance until the umpire calls time.
10. The batter gets 3 swings at the ball on the tee.
11. One offensive coach behind the plate to quickly adjust the height of the tee for each batter and remove the tee once the ball is hit. The tee should always remain in the center of home plate. Coach MAY NOT touch the batter/bat at the plate in order to position them. It should be understood that physical positioning anywhere on the field is not allowed, whether on offense or defense. The two defensive coaches in the field must remain in the outfield and give all instructions from there unless time out has been called. All positioning instructions should be verbal or with signals. Physically manipulating the positioning of players will result in a possible suspension of the coach as determined by the Baseball Committee.
12. If a batted ball is hit on the first base side of the infield, the pitcher may field the ball and with routine effort tag the batter out before he or she reaches first base.

## SHETLAND (5u AND 6u) (continued)

13. **Overthrows at 1st base** - All runners may advance at their own risk one base on an overthrow regardless of ball being in fair or foul territory. If an obvious attempt is made to make a play on a runner, players may continue to advance as many bases as possible until play has stopped. A player simply throwing the ball in from the outfield does not constitute making a play. Once all runners have advanced one base and no play has been made, time out will be called regardless if ball is in the infield or outfield.
14. To encourage the teaching of proper baseball techniques, a fielded ball shall not be intentionally handed, rolled, or bounced to another player. Additionally, outfielders shall not run a fielded ball to the infield. If in the opinion of the umpire this rule is broken the runner will be called safe.
15. There will be no infield practice before game.
16. The baseball may not be "TEED" higher than the player's strike zone defined as chest to knees.
17. No Player shall play any position in the Infield, Pitcher or Catcher more than 2 innings or more than 3 innings total as an Infielder, Pitcher, or Catcher. It is stated that no player shall play any (one) position in the infield, pitcher, or catcher for more than 2 innings (per game) or more than 3 innings total in the infield, pitcher or catcher (per game). It should be understood that player rotation and infield shifts will not be allowed within an inning. Officials who may umpire older age groups may tell you that this is okay but it has been determined by the Baseball Committee that this will not be acceptable. Once a player is assigned a position for an inning, every effort should be made to allow that player to finish out the inning in that position unless there is an injury or extenuating circumstance. Rotating players or putting on an infield shift during an inning will result in a possible suspension of the coach as determined by the Baseball Committee. Umpires do not have a say on this rule. If you encounter this happening, you should remind the coach of the rule, ask them to adhere to it, and let the Shetland commissioners know the coach did not follow the guidelines. Please note that games may be audited throughout the season to verify coaches are following this and all other rules.

## PINTO (7u AND 8u)

1. All players on team bat in order. Ten players (4 outfielders) on defense.
2. Six innings or time limit "1 Hour". Game won't be stopped except for weather or run rule.
3. Five runs per inning.
4. Ties stand in the regular season.
5. 1 offensive time out per inning.
6. 2 defensive time outs per inning.
7. 1 coach on field immediately for injury, and play continues.
8. The ball is dead when in possession of an infielder in the infield and play has stopped and the Umpire calls time. A fielder holding up the ball does not constitute a dead ball and the runners may continue to advance until the umpire calls time.
9. **Overthrows at 1st base** - All runners may advance at their own risk one base on an overthrow regardless of ball being in fair or foul territory. If an obvious attempt is made to make a play on a runner, players may continue to advance as many bases as possible until play has stopped. A player simply throwing the ball in from the outfield does not constitute making a play. Once all runners have advanced one base and no play has been made time out will be called regardless if ball is in the infield or outfield.
10. Coach pitches to his own team. Pitching machine may be used at discretion of the Baseball Committee, but it would be used for all teams or none.
11. Coach-pitcher may not communicate in any way with the batter or another coach unless there is an offensive or defensive time out called. The coach pitcher may not communicate during a routine time out when a play has been completed. Communication includes gestures, motioning, verbal, or any other action that could be considered instruction.
12. If a ball strikes coach-pitcher, ball is dead and played as a foul ball.
13. The batter gets 6 pitches or 3 strikes whichever comes first. Foul ball on 6th pitch is just a foul ball. Batter will get another pitch for each foul ball after 2 strikes.
14. When the ball is hit, the coach-pitcher must leave the field of play to the opposite side from where the ball was hit.
15. There will be no infield practice taken before games.

**PINTO (7u AND 8u) (continued)**

16. The player at the pitcher position must have both feet in contact of a 3 ft line chalked to left or the right of the rubber until contact is made by batter.
  
17. **7u ONLY:** A Coach from the Defensive team will be permitted to stand behind the catcher to retrieve passed balls. This coach's impact on game is to speed it up when passed balls occur, not to coach from that position. NOTE: This coach cannot communicate in any way to anyone. A warning will be given by umpire to team on a first offense, and an ejection from the game will take place if rule continues to be violated. If ejection occurs, then BYA ejection rules will be enforced.
  
- 17a. **8u ONLY: NO** Coach from the Defensive team will be permitted to stand behind the Catcher to retrieve passed balls.

## MUSTANG (9u AND 10u)

All Baseball leagues will play by PONY BASEBALL rules with the following exceptions:

1. There will not be any infield warm-up prior to games.
2. All players on the team roster will bat in order as designated at the beginning of the game.
3. Stealing home: Once a pitcher is set, runner may not straight steal home base unless it is a pass ball or bunt attempt
4. Each team is allowed ONE intentional walk per game. The pitcher will NOT be required to pitch four balls.
5. Any player that plays the position of Pitcher and/or Catcher for TWO innings in a game they MUST have an inning of rest (either on the bench or elsewhere on the field) BEFORE they can play the position of Pitcher or Catcher.  
**NOTE:** This rule is to help protect player's arms. It is intended to keep players from coming off the mound and immediately going behind the plate or vice versa.  
1 pitch = 1 inning  
1 catch = 1 inning
6. Ties stand
7. If any team is ahead of the other team by 15 runs or more after 3 innings or 10 runs or more after 4 innings then, at the discretion of both coaches, that game will be declared complete and play will discontinue.
8. TIME LIMIT: Mustang: 1 Hr. 30 Min.
9. RUN LIMIT: Mustang: 5 runs per inning

## **PITCHING**

The maximum innings pitched allowed in Mustang will not exceed 2 per game, 3 per day, and 8 per week. 40 hours of rest is required when a pitcher has pitched in 3 innings in ONE calendar day

## BRONCO (11u AND 12u)

All Baseball leagues will play by PONY BASEBALL rules with the following exceptions:

1. There will not be any infield warm-up prior to games.
2. All players on the team roster will bat in order as designated at the beginning of the game.
3. Stealing home: Once a pitcher is set, runner may not straight steal home base unless it is a pass ball or bunt attempt
4. Each team is allowed ONE intentional walk per game. The pitcher will NOT be required to pitch four balls.
5. Any player that plays the position of Pitcher and/or Catcher for FOUR innings in a game they MUST have an inning of rest (either on the bench or elsewhere on the field) BEFORE they can play the position of Pitcher or Catcher.  
**NOTE:** This rule is to help protect player's arms. It is intended to keep players from coming off the mound and immediately going behind the plate or vice versa.  
1 pitch = 1 inning  
1 catch = 1 inning
6. TIES: Overtime rules apply when game length (innings) or time limit have been reached. **Last two batters on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base with one out. No count on the batter.** Continue this format for ONE inning, if still no winner then tie stands.
7. If any team is ahead of the other team by 15 runs or more after 3 innings, 12 runs or more after 4 innings, or 10 runs or more after 4 innings then, at the discretion of both coaches, that game will be declared complete and play will discontinue.
8. TIME LIMIT: BRONCO: 1 Hr. 45 Min.
9. RUN LIMIT: BRONCO: 6 runs per inning

## **PITCHING**

The maximum innings pitched allowed in Bronco will not exceed 4 per game, 6 per day, or 10 per week. 40 hours of rest is required when a pitcher has pitched in 4 or more innings in ONE calendar day

## PONY (13u AND 14u)

All Baseball leagues will play by PONY BASEBALL rules with the following exceptions:

1. There will not be any infield warm-up prior to games
2. All players on the team roster will bat in order as designated at the beginning of the game.
3. Stealing home: Once a pitcher is set, runner may not straight steal home base unless it is a pass ball or bunt attempt
4. Each team is allowed ONE intentional walk per game. The pitcher will NOT be required to pitch four balls.
5. Any player that plays the position of Pitcher and/or Catcher for FOUR innings in a game they MUST have an inning of rest (either on the bench or elsewhere on the field) BEFORE they can play the position of Pitcher or Catcher.  
**NOTE:** This rule is to help protect player's arms. It is intended to keep players from coming off the mound and immediately going behind the plate or vice versa.  
1 pitch = 1 inning  
1 catch = 1 inning
6. TIES: Overtime rules apply when game length (innings) or time limit have been reached. **Last two batters on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base with one out. No count on the batter.** Continue this format for ONE inning, if still no winner then tie stands.
7. All Leagues: If any team is ahead of the other team by 15 runs or more after 3 innings, 12 runs or more after 4 innings, or 10 runs or more after 5 innings then, at the discretion of both coaches, that game will be declared complete and play will discontinue.
8. TIME LIMIT: PONY: 1 Hr. 45 Min.
9. RUN LIMIT: PONY: No run limit

## **PITCHING**

Follow PONY Rule book White pages for league play. Which states: The maximum innings pitched allowed is 7 per day and 10 per week. 40 hours of rest is required when a pitcher has pitched in 4 or more innings in ONE calendar day

### COLT / PALOMINO (15u, 16u, 17u AND 18u)

All Baseball leagues will play by PONY BASEBALL rules with the following exceptions:

1. There will not be any infield warm-up prior to games
2. All players on the team roster will bat in order as designated at the beginning of the game.
3. TIES: Overtime rules apply when game length (innings) or time limit have been reached. **Last two batters on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base with one out. No count on the batter.** Continue this format for ONE inning, if still no winner then tie stands.
4. If any team is ahead of the other team by 15 runs or more after 3 innings, 12 runs or more after 4 innings, or 10 runs or more after 5 innings then, at the discretion of both coaches, that game will be declared complete and play will discontinue.
5. TIME LIMIT: 1 Hr. 30 Min.
6. RUN LIMIT: No run limit

Please note, Colt and Palomino age groups will combine if there is not enough teams for each to have a league on their own.

### **PITCHING**

Follow PONY Rule book White pages for league play. Which states: The maximum innings pitched allowed is 7 per day and 10 per week. 40 hours of rest is required when a pitcher has pitched in 4 or more innings in ONE calendar day

## ALL STAR SELECTION RULES

### **SPRING LEAGUE**

There will be a single elimination tournament held mid-season. Teams will be randomly seeded for this tournament. The Coach of the 1<sup>st</sup> place team in each league will be awarded the position of coach of his or her league All-Star team. If for any reason that person refuses the position then it will be offered to the Coach of the 2<sup>nd</sup> place team, 3<sup>rd</sup> place team, 4<sup>th</sup> place team, etc. until the position has been filled. For Clarification purposes, if 3 teams are made, if the Coach of the 2<sup>nd</sup> place older league chooses not to take the team, the 2<sup>nd</sup> team will then be offered to the 1<sup>st</sup> place Younger team coach and then go through rest of older Coaches before asking all of the younger coaches.

Coaches will nominate Players from their teams. The coach will ask and have available ANY player that would be available to play the entire All-Star season. **NOTE:** Any player that is willing to play shall be eligible for the All-Star team. If a coach, for whatever reason, appears to be withholding a player who legitimately deserves nomination to the All-Star team, the rest of the coaches within that league may nominate that player by a majority vote.

There will be a player evaluation presided over by the Baseball Committee. It will be MANDATORY that ALL Head Coaches or their designate attend the player evaluations. Following the player evaluation there will be a Coaches meeting where the nominated players will be voted on by the Coaches of that league for selection of the All-Star team.

All head coaches/or designates, Older and Younger League, will vote for the top eight players.

The maximum number of All-Star Teams made for a PONY Division is 4 teams.  
PONY age tiers per Divisions as follows:

Shetland is 5U/6U

Pinto is 7U/8U

Mustang-9 is only 9U pure team

Mustang is 9U/10U

Bronco-11 is only 11U pure team

Bronco is 11U/12U

Pony-13 is only 13U pure team

Pony is 13U/14U

If the decision is made by the Baseball Committee to form a pure age 9, 11 or 13year old team, it shall be drafted before the Older League.

The Older age group league coaches, after all discussion about prospective all-star players has ceased will then elect, by vote eight players to the all-star team from Older Age Group League.

The Younger age league coaches will then list their nominations and players will be discussed as needed.

The Older age league all-star coach will then have the option of picking up four to seven additional players to fill his/hers roster for tournament play.

The head coach will fill out the remainder of the roster.

## **ALL STAR SELECTION RULES (continued)**

If for any reason an elected All-Star Player refuses the right to play, the coach of that team must notify the Vice President over their league. The Vice President, or their designate, will then make available to the coach a list of the players nominated for their league. The replacement player must come from that list. If no player from that list agrees to play then, with the approval of the Vice President from that league, the coach can find replacement players from within his/her own league. **NOTE:** If a player is selected to an All-Star Team that the Head Coach was listed as Coach NOT wanted for the regular season, then that player may elect to play for another All-Star Team in that age league. However, if a player chooses to not play for the All-Star Team they were chosen for and the Head Coach was NOT listed as Coach Not wanted for the regular season, then the player is NOT eligible to play for another All-Star Team.

**REC practice/games will be a priority over All-Star practice/games during the regular REC season.**

Any coach taking an All-Star team must remain with that team for its entirety. Any coach taking a team to turn over to someone else is strictly forbidden and will put your future coaching status in jeopardy. In the event of unusual circumstances that may cause an All-Star coach the need to step down must be agreed to by the members of the Baseball Committee.

The coach of the All-Star team will have the right to choose his or her own coaching staff as long as they were active coaches, head or assistant, within BYA during the regular season. Any other candidates must have prior approval from the Baseball Committee before being named as an assistant.

Remember, all the players on your All-Star team have earned the right to be there. They should be given every opportunity to play.

Make sure you as coach give all the players on your team a positive experience during their All-Star career.

A balance sheet showing any expenses or income to your team will be required. Each coach will be responsible for turning this into the league Baseball Commissioner at the end of his or her team participation in post season play.

Any coach not turning this in will be subject to possible disciplinary action including the possibility of suspension from coaching in upcoming years.

Any item that is purchased with team funds over \$100 dollars that each child will not receive his or her own item of must be approved by the V.P. of that sport prior to purchasing it.

You must submit in writing the item(s) to be purchased, the amount, and at the end of the post season what will happen with this item(s). Signatures representing 2/3 of your team will be required prior to submitting this to the Sports Committee. Only one signature allowed per player participating. (Two parents from one child cannot sign form). Only after approval from the V.P. may items be purchased.

## **FALL LEAGUE**

*There is no All-Star play currently available for fall league play.*

## **NON REC BASEBALL TEAM RULES**

### **PONY ELITE TEAMS**

All BYA Pony Elite Baseball teams sanctioned by BYA will be governed by the BYA Code of Conduct and the PONY Elite League Rules.

Teams that register with BYA will be responsible for all fees paid before announced Deadline. Rosters turned in on turn in date will be the same roster turned into PONY for All-star tournaments for each team.

Any BYA Sanctioned Coach/Team accepting to participate in PONY End Season Tournaments MUST Stay with Team and Tournament throughout the conclusion of the PONY End Season Tournament for his team. Failure to do so will be subject to disciplinary action by the baseball committee.