

4th Annual Berlin Riverside Classic Baseball Tournament

12U Boys

berlinyouthsports.org/bybs-tournaments

Tournament Rules:

- Little League rules apply with the following exceptions.

Tournament Purpose:

- This will be a “scrimmage” atmosphere
- The focus should be on “youth skill development”
- This is for the youth and is thus a **Family-Friendly Atmosphere**

Game Rules:

- Home team is determined by a coin toss. The team that traveled the farthest calls the coin flip.
- Teams should arrive no less than 30 minutes prior to their scheduled game time.
- A minimum of 8 players is required to start a game. Less than 8 is a forfeit.
- No run rule. This is a scrimmage. Game will end after 6 innings or the time limit has expired. No new inning will start after 1 hour and 15 minutes.
- Maximum of six (6) runs per inning.
- Games can end in a tie. There are no extra innings. This is a scrimmage.
- The tournament committee reserves the right to shorten, alter, or cancel games if weather or time do not permit completion in a timely manner.
- Teams must bat their entire roster with unlimited defensive substitutions.
- There are no playoffs, no brackets, no medals/trophies/ribbons. This is a scrimmage.

Roster Rules:

- Team Roster may consist of up to 15 players.
- Individual players are limited to 2 innings “in a row” at the same position. This will not be strictly enforced, however please make all efforts to allow different players to play different positions.
- Each player must play 2 defensive innings per game. This will not be strictly enforced, however please make all efforts to ensure that no one player is sitting the bench the majority of the game.
- If a player is injured during a game, they can simply skip their spot in the batting order and there will NOT be an out given. That injured player can re-enter in the same spot once feeling better.

Defensive Rules:

- Teams will play 9 in the field, 3 players in the outfield grass when the ball crosses the plate.
- Infield fly WILL BE in effect and runner advance at their own risk when all requirements are met.
 - o Runners on 1st AND 2nd OR bases loaded (does not apply with only 1 runner on base)
 - o Less than 2 outs
 - o Batted Ball is in fair territory
 - o Ball is deemed catchable by an infielder
 - o Ball is from a swing and in the air (cannot be a bunt, cannot be a line drive)

- Dropped third strike rule is in play (only if first base is unoccupied OR if there are 2 outs). Thus, if the catcher drops the 3rd strike (with 1st base open or with 2 outs), the batter becomes a runner.
- A runner who fails to “tag up” will be called out by the umpire. This must be witnessed by the umpire, and there are no appeals.
- On fields with the double first base (white & orange), when there is a play at 1st, the runner must run to the orange, and the 1B must place their foot on the white base so as to avoid collisions.
- Defensive Timeouts are allowed (up to 2 per inning) for a coach to briefly come out onto the field (less than a minute) to explain a situation to their players, explain a rule to their players, or explain to the players what happened on the previous play.
- Injury situations do not count as a defensive timeout.

Pitching Rules:

- Pitchers may pitch 1 inning (or 3 consecutive outs) per game. This is done to promote trying new pitchers and giving youth that normally don't have a chance an opportunity to pitch. Pitchers are not allowed to return as pitcher in the same game.
- Balks WILL BE called. Umpires will give 1 warning “per pitcher”, after that the runners advance one base. Umpires will be instructed to be lenient and assist the instruct the pitchers on how to correct their motion. Some example balks include: Fake Pitch, Stopping Mid-Delivery, Flinching/Moving Shoulders/Dropping ball after coming set, Quick Pitch with no pause after coming set.
- No intentional walks are allowed, the pitcher must throw the pitches to every batter.
- A mound visit by a coach counts as 1 of the team's defensive timeouts (as stated above in the defensive rules). Any follow-up trip to the mound in the same inning shall automatically result in the removal of that pitcher for that game.
- Injury situations do not count as a trip to the mound.
- The fielding team will have one minute to warm up in between innings. This will allow enough time for up to (5) warm up pitches in between innings. Coaches, please have someone ready to warm up your pitcher if your catcher is putting on the equipment.
- There will be no throwing around the horn after a strikeout.
- A wild pitcher will be removed from a game after beaming 3 batters in the same inning.
- Pitchers are not allowed to wear sunglasses (unless they are prescription), jewelry, or additional accessories such as necklaces, wrist bands, or arm sleeves. An umpire has the right to make the pitcher take off these or similar items.
- 12U teams will pitch from a 50ft inclined portable mound.

Baserunning Rules:

- MLB Style Leading off IS ALLOWED. Runners can leadoff & steal at their own risk. HOME IS OPEN.
- 12U teams will be on a diamond with 70ft bases.
- A runner who misses a base will be called out by the umpire. This must be witnessed by the umpire, and there are no appeals.
- Base runners must avoid contact with fielders. Runners must slide on any close plays. Failure to do so will result in the runner being called out. Intentionally running into a fielder will result in the player's removal from the game.
- When advancing, base runners must slide feet first into a base or they will be called out (with the exception of diving head first back into a base).
- You can have a courtesy runner (optional) for the catcher if there are two outs. The courtesy runner will be the player who made the last out.

- On throws where the ball travels out of play (in the dugout, over the fence, under the fence) all runners will be awarded 2 bases (the base they were already traveling to plus 1 additional). Examples: A throw to 1st base that goes into the dugout allows the batter to advance to 2nd base (batter was going to 1st gets 2nd). An overthrow on a play to 3B that goes over the fence allows the runner to advance to home (runner was going to 3rd and gets home).

Batting Rules:

- Approved Bats: Any. Swing what you bring!
- You can bunt. However, you cannot swing after squaring to bunt. If this is done the batter will be called out.
- All players must wear a batting helmet while on deck, batting, or running the bases. One batter can be in the on-deck circle at a time. The on-deck batter must go to the side “behind the batter”.
- A player throwing their bat (wildly propelled more than 6 feet after a hit, at the umpire’s discretion) will be automatically out, play will be immediately stopped, and no runners can advance.
- Fair balls hit that roll under or over the outfield fence are considered ground-rule doubles.

Coach, Player, and Fan Code of Conduct:

- **ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOL ON-PREMISES.** This is a youth fundraiser and a family friendly early season scrimmage tournament, thus there will be a zero alcohol tolerance. If any fan, coach, or family member from any team has alcohol on premise, the coach of the responsible team will be given a single warning. If the person refuses to remove the alcohol or a 2nd incident occurs for the same team, the responsible team will immediately forfeit their current game. If the situation occurs between games, it will result in the immediate forfeit of the teams upcoming next game. Coaches will be responsible for making their fans, coaches, and family members aware of this policy and the impact it will have on the team’s ability to play.
- **ABSOLUTELY NO CARRY-INS ON-PREMISES.** Teams are reminded that a fully stocked and affordable concession stand will be available for the duration of the tournament. Please limit carry-ins to water and/or sports drinks for players to stay hydrated, as well as any dietary restrictions. Remember this is a fundraiser for the Berlin youth program, thus there will be a zero tolerance for large coolers or tables of carry-in food. If any fan, coach, or family member from any team brings in large coolers full of drinks (other than water), food, or sets up tables or spreads of carry-in food, the coach of the responsible team will be given a single warning. If the person refuses to remove the carry-ins or a 2nd incident occurs for the same team, the responsible team will immediately forfeit their current game. If the situation occurs between games, it will result in the immediate forfeit of the team’s upcoming next game. Coaches will be responsible for making their fans, coaches, and family members aware of this policy and the impact it will have on the team’s ability to play. Please support the Berlin youth by using the concession stands.
- **ABSOLUTELY NO ARGUING OR DISPARGING** of any kind, this includes things directed at umpires, coaches, youth, or opposing fans. This is a family friendly early season scrimmage tournament focused on skill development, not competition, thus there will be a zero tolerance for arguing or disparaging umpires. If any fan, coach, or family member from any team is yelling inappropriate comments directed towards any umpire, player, opposing coach, or opposing fan the coach of the responsible team will be given a single warning. If the person continues to make a scene or a 2nd incident occurs in relation to the same team, the responsible team will immediately forfeit their current game. If the situation occurs between games, it will result in the immediate forfeit of the teams upcoming next game. Coaches will be responsible for making their fans, coaches, and family members aware of this policy and the impact it will have on the team’s ability to play.

- All teams, coaches, players, and families will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike and positive manner. This includes exercising self-control, graciously accepting outcomes of games, and treating all teams, players, coaches, umpires, and families with courtesy and respect.
- Berlin Youth Baseball & Softball (BYBS) will not tolerate inappropriate behavior by any participant or attendee, including actions such as profanity, violence, abuse, vulgar gestures, inappropriate comments, dangerous actions such as throwing bats/helmets/balls, or threats made against others. Any person engaging in this activity will be removed from the premises. No warnings will be given.
- There are NO protests. Please remember this is a scrimmage and many umpires will be “youth”. Expect a large strike zone that encourages batters to swing and remember since the umpires are youth they are also learning and may get some play calls wrong. Respect the umpires. Umpire’s decisions are final. One coach may discuss the rules with the umpire, keeping in mind the intent and spirit of the tournament.
- Coaches are ultimately responsible for their own players, player families, and fans in keeping the positive spirit of the tournament.
- A full concession will be provided. Please support the organization.

General Rules:

- A coach may not leave the dugout area unless for reasons allowed above. If a coach wants to confer with one of his players or the umpire, they must first call a time-out that is granted by the umpire.
- A complete rain-out of the tournament (no games played) will result in a 50% entry fee refund.
- In case of rain delays, the tournament committee reserves the right to shorten game times.
- Berlin Youth Baseball & Softball (BYBS) and tournament sponsors are not liable for injuries occurring during or as result of this tournament.
- No metal spikes.
- No coaches or players or fans are allowed directly behind the backstop/home-plate during a game they are participating in. Please sit down the sideline to avoid distracting the youth during at-bats.
- **PLEASE REMEMBER TO HAVE FUN AND REMEMBER THIS TOURNAMENT IS FOR THE YOUTH!**