



**PLOVER-WHITING YOUTH ATHLETICS
TOURNAMENT RULES AND INFORMATION
14u YEAR-OLD DIVISION**

A team roster will consist of no more than fifteen (15) players. All players must be of age or younger (as of April 30th). Once a team begins its first game, its roster will be set for the tournament. Please have a team roster and birth certificates available should they be requested.

NFHS Baseball Rules are in effect with the following exceptions noted below:

A. Game Length

i. Games will be seven (7) innings in length. Mercy Rules as follows: 12 runs after 4 innings, 10 runs after 5 innings, or 8 runs after 6 innings. Home team must have the last at bat if behind.

ii. No inning will start later than one (1) hour and forty-five (45) minutes. A new inning starts when the last out of the previous inning is recorded. Game time will stop during the care/attention to an injured participant.

iii. In the event of a tie, after 7 innings or after the time limit, the California Tie-Breaking Rules will be followed. (Inning starts with a runner on 2nd base and 1 out. The runner on 2nd is the player who made the last out of the previous inning.

iv. *(July Tourney) - The Championship Game shall waive the time limit but all run rules are still in effect. Pool play games can end in a tie and California Rule is only applied if the time limit has not been reached.*

B. Field/Dugouts

i. Diamonds have 90 foot bases and a 60'- 6" pitching distance.

ii. No infield practice will be allowed prior to any game. NO soft toss is allowed into any fencing, with any type of ball. Pitchers are to warm-up in bullpen only – NO practice using fencing as a backstop.

iii. Choral chanting and the use of noise makers or speakers by teams and fans is not allowed and will be ruled as an unsportsmanlike behavior and subject to game forfeiture. Music may be played prior to your game but please be respectful to the games going on around you. Once the game has started, no music (between innings, walk-up music, etc) is allowed at anytime as this can be a distraction and cause safety issues to nearby fields.

iv. Only players and coaching staff are allowed in dugouts for liability reasons.

C. Bats/Batting/Substitutions

i. Bats can be BBCOR (-3) or USA Baseball (-5 only) or USSSA 1.15 BPF (-5 only). Use of an unlabeled or illegal bat will result in an automatic out if used at bat.

ii. Designated hitters are allowed, however, we do encourage you to bat your entire line-up. If you do choose to bat your entire roster, 'FREE' substitutions of players will be allowed throughout the game. Prior to the start of the game, please communicate to the opposing coach your intentions as to whether you plan to bat the entire line-up or not.

iii. If a player is injured and cannot return, his spot in the order will be skipped over and the team will NOT be charged with an out.

iv. ALL substitutions must be reported to the home plate umpire prior to them entering the game.

Starters may only re-enter once. The home book is the official scorebook.

v. Batters may advance to 1st base on a dropped 3rd strike using dropped third strike rules.

vi. For safety reasons, on deck batters need to be in the on deck circle located behind the batter.

D. Pitching/Defense

i. A pitcher may pitch in any and all games; however, a pitcher will be limited to four (4) innings in any game. Once the umpire declares the ball live, it will constitute an inning pitched. Once removed from the mound, a pitcher may not return to the mound during the remainder of that game. There is an 10 inning maximum for the tournament.

ii. Managers or coaches are allowed one (1) trip to the mound each inning. A second trip in the same inning shall require the removal of the pitcher. A pitcher walking toward the baseline to discuss play with the manager/coach shall be counted as a trip to the mound.

iii. Intentional walks are allowed (though not encouraged) and the coach simply notifies the umpire.

iv. Throwing the ball around the horn is NOT allowed due to time limitations.

E. Baserunning

i. Leading off is allowed at any time.

ii. Any runner is out when he does not slide or attempt to avoid contact with a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag or if he maliciously runs into a fielder. Base runners may not hurdle a fielder or catcher. (Umpires Discretion – No Discussion)

iii. A courtesy runner for the catcher is MANDATORY with two (2) outs and may also be used with less than two (2) outs. A courtesy runner may also be used for the pitcher, but he must be inserted in the game immediately upon the pitcher reaching base. All courtesy runners shall be players who made the last out.

iii. Head coaches may politely ask for an appeal on missed bases or leaving a base early when tagging up after the play is ruled dead. Players do not need to throw to the base. The umpire's decision is final.

F. Misc

i. Steel spikes are allowed

ii. Home team will be determined by a coin toss for each pool play game in the tournament. All game results (winner, loser, and score) must be reported to the Tournament Director by the WINNING team.

(July Tourney)-The top seed will have the choice to be home or away in playoff bracket games.

iii. Only the manager may discuss a decision with the umpire. No protests are allowed—umpire's decisions are final. Umpires are to be treated with respect. Any unsportsmanlike act may result in the removal of a coach or player.

G. Tiebreakers (July Tourney)

i. Tie Breakers are as follows: Head-to-Head, Runs Allowed, Runs Scored, Coin Toss. IF there are more than two teams in the tie-breaker, and the above sequence narrows it down to two remaining teams, the sequence will repeat, starting with Head-to-Head.

H. Inclement Weather/App

i. PWYA and Sponsors are not liable for injuries occurring during the tournament.

The tournament officials reserve the right to change the tournament format in the event of extended delays caused by inclement weather in order to allow the completion of the tournament.

In case of inclement weather, the following procedures should be followed to ensure that coaches and tournament officials maintain the best line of communication possible:

- ❖ If the weather interrupts play once a day's games have started, coaches should report to tournament headquarters at Woyak Park to receive updates and/or directions and check the PWYA app often.

- ❖ If rain occurs during the night, check the PWYA app often as updates will be frequently posted to keep everyone up-to-speed on the plan for the day.

If there is any question relative to whether or not a game is to be played as scheduled, it is recommended that you show up as scheduled or check at tournament headquarters.

NO "CARRY-INS" ALLOWED in the Woyak or Weslan complexes. Please patronize our full service concession stand so that our organization and complexes can continue to improve.

Download the PWYA app for all of your schedules, score updates, standings, and more. This will be the primary means of providing updates at all PWYA Baseball tournaments. Available in the [App Store](#) and on [Google Play](#).