



**PLOVER-WHITING YOUTH ATHLETICS  
TOURNAMENT RULES AND INFORMATION  
8u 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.

Standard Little League rules apply with the following exceptions:

**A. Game Length**

- i. Games will be six (6) innings in length. If a team has at least a 10 run lead after 3 1/2 innings (if home team) or 4 complete innings, the game will be called. Home team must have last at bat if behind. There is a maximum of six (6) runs per inning, except the 6th inning which is unlimited.
- ii. No new innings may be started after one hour and fifteen minutes (1 hr / 15 min). 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. If the game is tied after 6 innings or after the time limit, the California Tie-Breaker Rule will be followed. (Inning starts with a runner on 2<sup>nd</sup> base and 1 out. The runner on 2<sup>nd</sup> is the player who made the last out of the previous inning.)
- iv. *(July Tourney) The Championship Game shall waive the time limit and 10-run rule. 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 60 foot bases..
- ii. No infield practice will be allowed prior to any game. NO soft toss is allowed into any fencing, with any type of ball. 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. Coaches must remain in the dugout during the game. One Coach may be in the outfield when their team is on defense for the purpose of play calling or instructing. One Coach may be located behind the catcher to retrieve passed balls.

**C. Bats/Batting/Substitutions**

- i. Bats must be labeled USA Baseball Certified *or* USSSA 1.15BPF. Use of an unlabeled or illegal bat will result in an automatic out if used at bat.
- ii. Offensive TEAM must use a continuous batting order of the entire roster with unlimited substitutions. Defensive team shall consist of 10 (ten) players – 4 outfielders, with no rover.
- iii. If a player is injured during the game or is unable to participate, the team will not be charged with an out when his spot in the line-up comes up again – you will simply skip over that spot in the lineup.
- iv. Line-ups with batting order will be given to the opposing team. Automatic out if batting out of order. Home book is the official score book.

v. If a batter strikes out, he cannot advance to first base under any circumstances.

vi. Fake bunt and swing away for a hit will not be allowed for safety reasons – batter will record an automatic out if used.

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

viii. One warning will be given per team for a thrown bat. Second thrown bat will result in an out.

#### D. Pitching/Defense

i. The batting team coach pitches to his/her own players. There will be a 14 foot diameter circle around the 43 foot rubber. Adult pitcher must start with any part of the body in the pitching circle. Youth pitcher (player) must start completely inside the circle.

ii. Each batter will receive six (6) pitches unless the batter strikes out swinging. No tees will be used. If after six (6) pitches the batter has not hit the ball, the batter will be considered out. If the batter fouls-off the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch, it will be considered a foul ball and the batter will get another pitch. If the batter continues to foul-off pitches past the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch, the batter will continue to get more pitches until the ball is hit fair or the batter strikes out.

iii. The coach that is pitching cannot field the ball. However, if the pitching coach is hit by a batted ball, the play is dead and the pitch is not counted as one of the six (6) pitches. The pitching coach must attempt to get out of the way of a batted ball or else the batter will be called out.

iii. Bunting is not allowed.

iv. The defensive team should return a batted ball to the defensive player playing the pitcher position. That player will give the ball to the pitching coach. No runner may advance when a defensive player has control of the ball, in fair territory on the infield dirt and verbally calls for and is granted “time” by the umpire. Lines will be drawn halfway between each base (except between home and first) – baserunners must be completely across this line when “time” is called and granted in order to advance to the next base. If not completely across, they must retreat to the previous base. Until “time” is called, the play may remain live.

v. Throwing around the horn after an out is not allowed due to time limitations.

vi. The infield fly rule will not be used.

#### E. Baserunning

i. See Rule D, Section iv regarding baserunning rules and limitations.

ii. Base stealing is not allowed. The ball must cross home plate before runners can leave the base. If a player does lead off, the player will be called out and the play will be dead. No warnings will be given.

iii. 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 (Umpire’s Discretion). Head first slides are not allowed and will be called as the play results followed by the illegal slide “out” call. Players retreating to a base previously occupied may slide head first.

iv. A courtesy runner for the catcher is MANDATORY with two (2) outs and may also be used with less than two (2) outs. Courtesy runner will be the player who made the last out

v. 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. No metal spikes are allowed. Only rubber spikes or tennis shoes may be worn.

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 removal of 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](#).**