

12U Baseball Cheat Sheet



Bat Rules:

- Max Length: 34 inches.
- Max Diameter: 2 $\frac{5}{8}$ inches.
- Certification: Must have a BBCOR, USSSA 1.15, or USABat stamp.
- Wooden Bats: Allowed.

Base Running Rules:

- Lead Line: A line is marked 14 feet from each base. Runners must stay between the base and this line until the ball crosses home plate.
- Stealing: Allowed only after the ball crosses home plate.
- No Headfirst Slides: Except when returning to a base.

Pitching Rules:

- Pitching Distance: 50 feet.
- Pitch Count Limits:
 - Max Pitches per Day: 85.
 - Required Rest Days:
 - 66+ pitches: 4 days rest.
 - 51-65 pitches: 3 days rest.
 - 36-50 pitches: 2 days rest.
 - 21-35 pitches: 1 day rest.
 - 1-20 pitches: No rest required.
- Balks:
 - First Balk: "No pitch—dead ball" call; runners do not advance.
 - Second Balk: Runners advance one base.

Fielding Rules:

- Players on Field: 9 players.
- Substitutions: Free substitutions, except for pitchers.

- Dropped Third Strike: In effect.
- Infield Fly Rule: In effect.
- No Slash Bunting: Batters cannot show bunt and then swing.

Substitution Rules

- Entire Bench Bats: All players must be in the batting lineup.
- Defensive Play:
 - All players must sit out one inning before any player sits out a second inning.
 - Starting Pitcher Exception: May continue pitching even if other players have sat out more than once but must go to the bench once removed from pitching.

Mercy Rule:

- 12-Run Rule:
 - Applies after 4½ innings if the home team is ahead.
 - Applies after 5 innings if the home team is losing.
 - Game ends if the run differential meets or exceeds 12 runs at these points.

Sportsmanship Rules:

- No Malicious Contact: Results in immediate ejection from the game.
- Bat Throwing: Warning on the first offense; subsequent offenses result in an out.
- Negative Cheers: Not permitted by players or fans.
- Artificial Noisemakers: Not allowed (e.g., cowbells, whistles).

Forfeit Rules:

- Minimum Players: A team must have at least 8 players to start and finish a game.
- Less than 8 Players:
 - If a team cannot field 8 players, the game is forfeited.
 - This rule applies to tournament play only.
 - During the regular season, every effort should be made to play the game, which may include using players from the opposing team to ensure the game is played