

5th-6th Grade Boys Baseball Rules

Territorial Sports Program
Revised 5/2025

NFHS rules apply except for the following exceptions:

1. Home team sits on the 3rd base side.
 - Athletes' parents should sit on their team side
 - Coaches must stay in the Coaches Box until a dead ball or time is called.
 - No parent or coaches behind the backstop at any time a game is going on.
 - Scorekeepers should remain close to the bench area so scorebooks can be compared between innings.
2. Start time is 6:15. Games will have 6 innings, with a **90 minute time limit**. The umpire shall declare the last inning before the time limit and the last inning shall be open. **No new innings after 90 minutes. Games cannot end in a tie.**
 - If there is 5mins left of play time, a new inning should be played unless there is no way to catch up.
3. In case of rain, 4 full innings will be considered a game. If a game is called due to the time limit, it will be considered a full game as long as one inning has been completed.
4. Regulation youth baseball will be used. Distance to the pitching mound is 46-foot, 60-foot bases.
5. All players must play 3 full innings of a 6-inning game. A full inning is defined as a play in the field. If a player is not playing for disciplinary reasons, the umpire must be informed before the game starts.
6. Pitching substitution rules: The pitcher does not have to remain on the field in order to come back and pitch in the same game. This is different than High School. Please be aware sometimes a player's arm can get tight after sitting a couple of innings. Make sure your players warm up before sending them back into the game.
7. If a pitcher walks or hits 3 consecutive batters, the pitcher must be replaced but may return after the relief pitcher has pitched to at least 1 batter.
8. Pitchers can pitch 4 innings per game/seven innings per week. Innings are to be recorded on the Roster sheet that is submitted to the equipment room after every game. TSP tournament weekend - 4 innings per game / 12 innings total for the weekend.
9. An inning will end when a maximum of five (5) runs per team are scored, or 3 outs have been made.

10. Each team must bat their entire roster.
11. The batter/runner may not run on a dropped third strike.
12. Runners may lead off after the ball crosses home plate. One warning per team will be given for runners leaving the base early. After that, it will be an out. Runners may steal all bases.
13. **International Tie Breaker:** In the event of a tie at the end of six innings or the 90 minutes, the ITB rule goes into effect. The intent of the ITB is to provide accelerating scoring opportunities and to bring the game to a speedier conclusion. The team on offense will start the inning with a runner on 2nd base. The runner is the batter who was last out in the previous inning. Only 1 full inning will be played. If the game is still tied at the end of the completed inning, the game will end in a tie.
14. **Infield Fly Rule:** This rule will apply when there is only 0 or 1 out and when there are runners at 1st & 2nd or the bases are loaded. If a fair infield fly ball is in play, and in the umpire's judgment is catchable by an infielder, the umpire shall call "infield fly, the batter is out" and the batter will be out regardless of whether the ball is actually caught.
 - If "infield fly, the batter is out" is called and the fly ball is caught, it is treated exactly as an ordinary caught fly ball. The batter is out, there is no force, and the runners must tag up.
 - If "infield fly, the batter is out" is called and the ball lands fair without being caught, the batter is still out, there is still no force, BUT the runners are not required to tag up.
15. The **10-run rule will apply after 5 innings.**
16. All catchers must wear a mask with throat protection, helmet, chest, and shin protection while catching, including warm-ups. All male catchers shall wear their own protective cup.
17. No tobacco, alcohol, or drug use by any players, coaches, or spectators during games.
18. **Good sportsmanship will be displayed at all times. Coaches, players, parents, or fans arguing with an umpire may result in an out for that team or ejection from the game. Only positive chants will be allowed!**