

Sandlot Academy of South Jersey **Spring Starter Tournament**

Rules 10 - 14yr olds

FORMAT: These rules are written for the following five age divisions: U10, U11, U12, U13, and U14. Hosted tournaments will be on March 27th – 28th, 2010 for the 11U and April 10th – 11th, 2010 for the 12U.

RULES: 10U division will play 46-60 Cal Ripken rules with any exceptions listed below
11U-12U will play 50-70 Cal Ripken rules with any exceptions listed below
13U-14U will play 60-90 Babe Ruth rules with any exceptions listed below

A. TEAM ROSTER:

- 1) A team will consist of one (1) adult manager, two (2) coaches, one (1) scorekeeper and a maximum of fifteen (15) players. There must be a minimum of nine (9) players present at the start of each game. If, for any reason, the lineup subsequently drops below 9 players (i.e. injury, etc.), an out will be recorded at the vacated position in the batting order.
- 2) No one other than these team members are permitted on the field or in the dugout areas at any time.
- 3) Each team's final roster must be mailed or e-mailed to the following address no later than March 15th, 2010.
Sandlot Baseball Academy
368 Berlin Cross Keys Rd.
Sicklerville, NJ 08081,
ATTN: Sandlot Academy of South Jersey Spring Starter Tournament
e-mail: tournament@sandlotsjersey.com
- 4) Rosters form must be filled out and include (1) team name, (2) players' names, (3) players' dates of birth, (4) players' uniform number, (5) coaches'/contacts' names, (6) phone numbers, and (7) an E-mail address.
- 5) No changes will be accepted after the final roster is submitted.
- 6) A player may not appear on the roster of more than one team in the same age group.

B. PLAYER AGE:

- 1) The player's age bracket is determined by player's age as of April 30, 2010 as per the Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth rules.
- 2) Copies of birth certificates or Babe Ruth approved ID cards must be available during the tournament.

C. ENTRANCE FEE:

- 1) \$425 (11U & 12U)

D. INSURANCE:

Insurance coverage is the responsibility of the individual teams entered into the tournament. A copy of the insurance policy must be submitted together with the team roster.

E. UMPIRES:

- 1) Sandlot Academy will furnish umpires. One (1) umpire will officiate each game in 10u -12u. Two umpires will officiate the 13u -14u games.
- 2) Two (2) umpires will officiate the championship.
- 3) In order to keep the games moving, coaches are not allowed on the field to argue judgement calls. Umpires will eject coaches who come onto the field to argue a judgement call.

F. BASEBALLS:

A case of game balls will be made available for all games by the Sandlot Baseball Academy.

G. GAME LOCATION:

Games will be played at the Frank Donio Memorial Park in Sicklerville NJ. Directions to the field will be posted on the website.

H. ELIMINATION:

Each team is guaranteed three games minimum. In each bracket, the top two teams according to record will advance to the semi finals.

Tie-breakers

- A) Best record
- B) Head to head (two teams only)
- C) Runs allowed overall
- D) Runs allowed vs tied teams
- E) Runs scored vs tied teams
- F) Coin flip

I. HOME TEAM:

- 1) The home team will be decided by a coin flip fifteen minutes prior to the game. A Sandlot Tournament official, umpire, or official scorer will perform the coin flip.
- 2) If only one team is present for the coin flip, that team will elect home or visitor.

- 3) The manager or coach may represent the team at the coin flip.
- 4) Home teams will occupy the first base dugout.

J. DEFINITION OF A GAME:

- 1) A game will be comprised of six (6) innings in ages 10U - 12U divisions and 7 innings in 13U - 14U divisions, unless the following occurs:
 - a) A game is terminated and 4 innings have been played in a 10U – 12U division game or 5 innings in a 13U – 14U division game (3½ or 4½ innings if the home team is leading).
 - b) A 10U - 12U game is terminated by the game time limit rule which is: a new inning may not begin after one hour and 50 minutes from the official start time, which will be announced and monitored by the game umpire. (Essentially if the first inning lasts one hour and 51 minutes, the game is ended.)

Note- The start of new inning, for the purpose of this 1 hour 50 minute rule, is defined as the last out of the previous inning. Therefore, if the last out of an inning is recorded before the 1 hour 50 minute mark, the next inning is to be played regardless of the fact that the first pitch of the new inning may not be delivered until the 1 hour 51 minute mark.

- c) A 13U-14U game is terminated by the game time limit rule which is: a new inning may not begin after two hours from the official start time. which will be announced and monitored by the game umpire. (Essentially if the first inning lasts two hours and 1 minute, the game is ended.)

Note- The start of new inning, for the purpose of this 2 hour rule, is defined as the last out of the previous inning. Therefore, if the last out of an inning is recorded before the 2 hour mark, the next inning is to be played regardless of the fact that the first pitch of the new inning may not be delivered until the 2 hour 1 minute mark.

Note-there is no time limit for championship games at any level.

- d) 10 run “Mercy Rule” is in effect after four (4) innings for ages 10U - 12U divisions or 5 innings for 13U - 14U divisions (3.5 or 4.5 if the home team is leading).
 - e) Games that are “suspended” prior to one of these occurrences due to weather or darkness will be rescheduled and will resume at the point of suspension.
 - f) Sandlot Baseball Academy tournament officials may terminate a game due to conduct that is deemed to be inappropriate. Coaches and Parents will respect an umpires call or decision. Umpires will be instructed to eject coaches or parents, and if deemed necessary, terminate the game. Sandlot tournament committee if conduct deemed inappropriate, reserves the right to remove coaches or parents and terminate a game. I would strongly urge you to pass this along to your parents. I can assure you that there will be a zero tolerance policy with coaches and parents.
 - g) Due to the time limit, umpires will allow only one minute between half innings. You must have your team hustle. Courtesy runners for the pitcher and catcher are allowed at any time-but the player running must be the last recorded out.

K. INCLEMENT WEATHER:

- 1) In the event of inclement weather, Sandlot Baseball Academy officials will notify the manager or coach of cancellation in advance (by E-mail), when possible. We will also post info on our website: <http://www.sandlotsjersey.com/>.
- 2) All teams must supply a cell phone number of a team contact prior to start of tournament.
- 3) If there is any doubt, assume the game will be played.

L. TEAM EQUIPMENT:

- 1) Each team will supply its own equipment.
- 2) The pitcher's glove cannot be white nor have a substantial portion of white. The pitcher's or catchers undershirt cannot be white or gray if long sleeve.
- 3) Metal spikes are prohibited except for 13 - 14U.
- 4) All batters, base runners and catchers must wear protective helmets.
- 5) All players must be in full uniform. All shirts must be uniquely numbered. Managers, coaches and scorekeepers may not wear tank tops or sweatpants.
- 6) Big barrel bats are permitted except for 10U divisions. A member of the opposing team (manager, coach or player in the field) may appeal to the umpire any time after the first pitch to a player up to the first pitch to the subsequent batter. If the appeal is upheld by the umpire, that batter is declared out and all baserunners return to the base which they occupied prior to the "called out batter" coming to the plate. Players may use any weight bats-there will no restrictions on weight-even in 13U or 14U.

M. FOOD, DRINKS, ETC.:

- 1) Managers, coaches and players may not eat any food in the dugout. Water bottles, 'Gatorade', etc., however, are encouraged. *Please remember to clean up as you leave a dugout after a game.*
- 2) Smoking is not allowed on any part of the property.

N. CONDUCT:

- 1) No manager or coach may come on the playing field once the game has begun until he has requested time and permission is granted by the umpire.
- 2) Any manager, coach, scorekeeper or parent ejected from any game will be expelled from any remaining games in the tournament.
- 3) Any team or their supporters that initiates, causes or continues any problems will cause that team to be expelled from the tournament without refund of the entrance fee.
- 4) Any player who throws bats, helmets, gloves or other equipment may be, at the umpire's discretion, ejected from the game.

- 5) The use of profanity will result in the ejection of that manager, coach or player from that game and will require that individual to leave the complex.
- 6) All parents must be in the stands or outside of the playing field.

O. PROTESTS:

- 1) Protests cannot be made on an umpire's judgment call!
- 2) A protest of a non-judgment (rules) call must be made immediately, which is defined as prior to the next pitch. Protest must be accompanied by \$75 protest fee. Fee will be returned if protest is upheld.
- 3) The game will be stopped at the point of protest.
- 4) The protest committee will consist of one individual from each team but cannot include the manager or coaches. Additionally, a Sandlot Baseball Academy official will be on the protest committee. If a Sandlot Baseball Academy official is not present, the official scorekeeper is responsible for summoning the Sandlot Baseball Academy official.
- 5) The protest representative should be identified prior to the game and that individual's name provided to the official scorekeeper at the time of lineup submission.
- 6) The protest committee can consult with the umpire (s).
- 7) The majority ruling of the protest committee, once stated, is final and play must resume immediately. Failure to resume the game immediately will result in a forfeit.

P. BALKS:

Balks are called only in the 11U, 12U, 13U & 14U divisions. For 11U and 12U warnings should be determined before game starts. No warnings for age 13 and 14.

Q. INFIELD FLY:

Infield fly is in effect for ages 11, 12, 13 & 14.

R. LINE UP:

Determining Starting Line-up: We want to let the Coach play as many players as he/she wants. The only information needed regarding a "Starting Lineup" is the number of batters. We do not care who plays in the field.

Offensive: Team may bat 9 players, the entire lineup or in-between. Once the number of batters is determined, it must remain for the entire game. An injury or ejection may result in an out if a substitute is not available. A substitute is anyone not placed in the batting order. Once a substitution bats or runs for a player, the sub and the original starter are locked into that batting position and either one may bat or run in that position **ONLY**. A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher with 2 outs and it **MUST** be the lasted batted out.

Defensive: Any player on the roster may play in any defensive position at any time, regardless of being in the batting order.

Example: A team may have 13 players: Bat 9 of them and play the other 4 in the field. No one player in a game can assume more than one offensive position.

S. DROPPED THIRD STRIKE:

- 1) The batter is out and cannot run to first for ages 10 and under.
- 2) Major League Baseball rules regarding dropped third strikes are in effect for 11U, 12U, 13U, and 14U.

T. BASE RUNNING:

- 1) Base runners (age 10) must hold their bag until the ball has passed the plate.
- 2) If a runner leaves early, he does so at his own risk. Umpires will enforce rules in accordance with established regulations (Cal Ripken League).
- 3) Umpires are using the "intent to injure" philosophy with all baserunners. If in doubt, tell your runners to slide.

U. PITCHING:

- 1) We will play tournament baseball rules for pitching using a rolling consecutive number of innings - six innings for ages under 12U and seven innings for ages 13U and above. For example (under 12U), if a pitcher throws three innings in game one, he is eligible for three innings in game two. If he only throws two innings in game two, he is eligible for four innings in game four, etc.
- 2) One pitch in an inning is considered an inning pitched.
- 3) On the second trip to the mound in the same inning, the pitcher must be removed.
- 4) Once a pitcher is removed, he cannot return as a pitcher later in that game.
- 5) If an illegal pitcher is used, the game will be forfeited. It is incumbent on the opposing manager to lodge protest in this case, and the protest must occur prior to the last out of the game.

V. FIELDING:

Free substitutions are allowed at all positions with the exception of the pitching rule.

W. CONCESSION STAND:

Food (Pizza, hot dogs), candy and beverages are available at our concession stand.

X. TROPHY/MEDALS:

Each player (MAXIMUM 15) on teams finishing 1st and 2nd in their respective age brackets will be awarded medals and a team trophy.

Y. WEATHER RELATED REFUND POLICY

3 game minimum tournament

Play NO games – Full refund

Play 1 game – 50% refund

Play 2 games – 25% refund

Z. PETS

1. No pets. Coaches, please discuss with your parents to leave the family dog at home. Parents who bring their dog, no matter what size in to the complex will be asked to leave. With the amount of players, kids, and parents, we do not want to risk any incident.
2. We kindly ask parents to not allow young children to chalk draw on the walkways in the complex.

