

Tri County State Qualifier Rules

A. All Tournaments will be conducted as double elimination tournaments.

C. The State Qualifier will be following the USA rulebook.

D. Tournament games are timed at 70 minutes or 7 innings. However, no new inning may start after 70 minutes. The tie-breaker rule shall be used starting with the top of the eighth inning, and each half inning thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base (e.g., if the number five batter is the leadoff batter, the number four batter in the batting order will be placed on second base. A substitute may be inserted for the runner). ****For 10UC ONLY the inning will start with 2 outs****

E. Approved Minnesota Roster. *The liability waiver language is required for insurance purposes.* This is for ALL ages, no exception. League directors voted in 2022 to allow paperless rosters for tournaments. Players not properly rostered on-line will be subject to ejection if an appeal is made. **Rosters will be locked starting on Friday of the start of the tournament.**

F. Protests: Anyone protesting a roster will pay \$200 cash to the tournament director. The \$200 will be refunded if the protest is successful.

G. In the event of delays due to inclement weather or extenuating circumstances:

1. The tournament director is empowered to shorten game times to no less than 45 minutes.

2. Games suspended after 3 complete innings or 2 ½ innings if the home team is ahead, which are not tied, may be declared complete games by the tournament director.

3. Every effort must be made to complete the tournament however, if playing conditions are untenable, the tournament director is empowered to cancel the tournament. (See Article X for state seeding rules in this eventuality).

H. LINEUPS:

- In 10U/12U you are required to bat all your players in attendance. If you reduce a player there is no penalty until you reduce below nine (9) batters. If you reduce to eight (8), the spot is an out. If you reduce to seven (7), the game is over.
- In 14U/16U/18U – you have the option to bat as many players as you want or use straight 9 or DP/Flex. If you reduce a player there is no penalty until you reduce below nine (9) batters. If you reduce to eight (8), the spot is an out. If you reduce to seven (7), the game is over. You must declare how many players you are using before the game to the umpire and the opposing coach.

I. 10U Specific Rules: **Tournament games for 10A are timed at 70 minutes or 7 innings and 10B and 10C are timed at 65 minutes or 7 innings.**

1. **10U General Rules:** In league play and the Tri County qualifier, **10U A&B** will play following the national rules (same as all age levels) and continue to play at 35' pitching distance, use an 11" ball, and be limited to 5 runs per inning. **The last batter to bat, if they were not out or were not a part of the 5th run, i.e., got a hit or walked then they will be first up to bat the following inning.**
2. **DROPPED THIRD STRIKE:** (10-UNDER C ONLY) If a third strike is caught, missed, or dropped, the batter shall be out. On-base runners may advance at their own risk.

J. Run rule applies. 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 and 8 runs after 5 innings.

K. Metal cleats are allowed at 14U, 16U and 18U (High School)

L. Pitching distance is 35' at 10U, 40' at 12U, 43' at 14U, 16U and 18U (High School)

M. Home team shall be determined by coin toss.

N. New Rule starting for the 2025 season under SECTION 7C [5] PLAYERS, COACHES, & SUBSTITUTES. Exclusively one-way electronic communication device may be used by the defense or offense to relay the pitch or play call from the dugout or field.