

# **BRONCO GROUND RULES**

**2015**

## **PITCHING RULES:**

1. An 11 year old pitcher must start the game and pitch to at least “9 batters” or 2 full innings or (6 outs), (Considered 11 year old if they are 10 or 11 and they do not turn 12 before May 1<sup>st</sup>)
2. Pitchers may not pitch in more than 7 innings on the same calendar day.
3. Pitchers shall have at least 40 hours rest after pitching 4 or more innings on the same calendar day.
4. Pitchers shall be allowed to pitch in no more than 10 innings in any one-calendar week.

(A) A calendar week is from 12:01 a.m. Monday to 12 midnight the following Sunday.

5. After throwing 1 pitch to a batter, the pitcher shall be considered as having pitched in 1 inning.
6. A pitcher is charged with the number of innings pitched in the specific calendar day and week in which they are pitched, regardless of whether they are local league games, the playoff or postponed games, tie games or exhibition games.
7. Once any pitcher is removed from the mound he will not be allowed to pitch again in the same game.
8. Each new pitcher will be given 8 warm-up pitches. There after at the start of each inning they will be given 5 warm-up pitches. (Remember the game is timed)
9. If a coach or assistant coach or a combination of either visits the mound 2 times in the game inning they must make a pitching change. (Crossing the infield line on a time out call is considered a visit)
10. Any team violating these rules will be considered illegal and may result in forfeiture of the game.

## **GAMES:**

1. All games will be followed as scheduled.
2. Games will be 6 innings or 1 hour and 45 minutes. No new innings will be started after 1 hour and 40 minutes of play. There is a 10 run-rule in effect after 4 and 1/2 innings with the home team ahead or 5 complete innings. Games may be extended in the event of a tie. Early games will be rescheduled to a later date if needed due to the 2<sup>nd</sup> game starting on time.
3. In the event any games are suspended, (rain, darkness, etc.) 4 and 1/2 innings the home team

ahead or 5 complete innings will constitute a regulation game. All suspended games will start over from the beginning. **\*EXCEPTION:** Any suspended tie game in excess of the above stated innings, (i.e. 5<sup>th</sup>), will resume from the point of suspension.

4. Teams must field at least 7 players and their batting order must be arranged to include 1 or 2 automatic outs and may be placed anywhere in the batting order by the coach.

5. All cancelled games due to weather etc/ shall be replayed the following free day or Saturday beginning with the first 2 teams that were unable to finish or play their game. The only exceptions will be weddings, death in family or by board excuse.

#### **BATTING ORDER:**

1. The first 4 batters in the line up shall be 11 years old and shall be as such until there have been 6 outs or 9 batters having batted. (Considered 11 if they are 10 or 11 and they do not turn 12 before August 1<sup>st</sup>)

2. If a coach cannot fulfill the requirements for the batting order, then the opposing coach may adjust his line up to match the other. This must be cleared with the umpire and scorekeeper of the game before the game begins.

3. All batting orders of players and numbers must be turned into scorekeeper 10 minutes before game time. Also all substitution and numbers must be reported to scorekeepers or could result in player being out at bat.

4. All players are in the line up and will bat the entire game.

#### **EQUIPMENT:**

1. Metal cleats are not allowed. Any player discovered wearing metal cleats during a game will be ejected from the game.

2. Catchers will wear a protective headgear and mask with throat protector while catching or warming up the pitcher. Any other player who warms up the pitcher must also wear protective headgear and mask with throat protector. Male catchers must wear a protective cup and athletic supporter while catching during a game.

3. All players in the field must wear the Sponsor's uniform the shirt, hat and gray pants.

4. Bats shall not be more than 33 inches in length nor have a barrel larger than 2 5/8 inches in diameter. Metal bats are legal.

5. Batter, on deck batters and runners must wear protective headgear which covers the top of the

head and have extended earflap which covers both ears and properly fits the player wearing it. If a player deliberately throws bat or helmet they will be called out or ejected.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

1. All players will play in a minimum of 2 innings, (6 outs), in each game. If a player cannot play 2 full innings during 1 game because the game was shortened due to weather, (rain, darkness, etc.), then that player must start and play their full innings in the next scheduled game.
2. There may be 1 adult coach stationed at the first and 1 adult coach stationed at the third base coaching boxes.
3. Profanity, tobacco usage, and alcoholic beverage will be prohibited on the playing field or in the dugouts.
4. If spectators or coaches become abusive and are asked to leave the field and do not comply, it will result in forfeit of offending team.
5. Any player may withdraw and re-enter the game once, providing the player does not improve his position in the batting order. A player can never come to bat twice before 8 other players have batted. If a pitcher is removed from the game, he may re-enter in a position other than Pitcher.
6. If there is a play at base and the runner does not slide and deliberately and with great force crashes into the defensive player, the runner is declared out, the ball is dead and all other runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the collision. If the act is determined to be flagrant, the offender will be ejected. **\*Coaches have agreed to teach their players to slide and encourage them to do so to prevent the injury of another player.** Head first is not allowed (only to get back to base). A player can only block the line of play when there is a play with the ball being made to their base.
7. On the Squeeze-Play (runner stealing home from third base), while the batter is at bat, the batter must either square around to the bunt or step out of the batters box before the runner reaches 1/2 way from third to home plate.  
**\*PENALTY: The batter is out, the ball is dead and all runners must return to the bases they occupied at the time of the pitch.**
8. If a coach or assistant coach or any combination visits the mound a second time in one inning the pitcher must be removed from pitching. Once removed from pitching that player cannot pitch again in the game. Crossing the foul line is considered a visit.

9. All players need to be entered by the top of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning and once entered in the game will stay in for at least 2 innings. (This is subject to coach' s discretion based on unacceptable reason for missing practices/games.) Re-entry rules are defined in the Pony League Rule book