

12U Lower Division Tournament Guidelines

General Information:

1. Brackets and maps will be on the website. MBSC will provide game balls and umpires. Home team will be determined by a coin flip and will have the official scorebook.
2. Rule 1-6-6: Beginning January 1, 2006 batting helmets shall have a NOCSAE-approved face mask/guard protector. The league requires approved face protectors on all batting helmets.
3. Individual trophies will be awarded for first and second place.

Eligibility:

1. Only players on your regular season roster are eligible for tournament play. All players must be 12 or under as of January 1 of the current year.

Rules:

1. Latest edition of the National Federation of State High School Associations rulebook.
2. MHSAA designates the run ahead rule to be 15 runs ahead after 3 innings and 10 runs ahead after 5 innings.

Exceptions:

1. Time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes or 7 innings. An inning may not start after 1 hour and 30 minutes of play.
2. A team may score a maximum of 6 runs per inning for the first 3 innings. All subsequent innings are unlimited.
3. A pitcher may not pitch more than 3 innings per game. One pitch constitutes an inning.
4. A team must bat all of their players that are present at each game. Late players must be added at the end of the batting order.
5. Every player must play at least 2 defensive innings per game.
6. A team must have a minimum of 8 players to start and end the game. **If you start with less than 9 players you must designate an out some where in the batting order.**
7. The batter will start with a 1 and 1 (1 ball and 1 strike) count. With two strikes a batter will not be called out on the first foul bunt attempt (the batter gets two bunt attempts).
8. No stealing of home. A runner may only advance to home when the ball is put in play by the offensive team or a play is made on any runner by the defensive team. **A runner on third may not advance to home on a dropped third strike.** The batter is not considered a runner until they obtain first base. With two outs and the bases loaded the runner on third is "forced" home as the batter attempts to reach first base.

Reminders:

1. A batter who deliberately throws her bat will be called out. If a bat is thrown unintentionally, the batter will be warned on the first infraction and called out on the second infraction and all subsequent at bats for the remainder of the game (plays defense only the rest of the game).
2. If an injured player misses their spot in the batting order, they are out of the game. The injury must occur on the field and the opposing coach and umpire must be notified immediately prior to the beginning of the team's offensive half of the inning. The player's spot in the batting order will be skipped and will not result in an automatic out.
3. When lightning or thunder is present play must be suspended for 30 minutes. Thirty minutes must lapse without lightning or thunder before play can resume.
4. No metal spikes. Jewelry determined dangerous by the umpire must be removed.
5. The runner must attempt to avoid a collision with the defensive player.
6. Tie-breaker procedure will be last scheduled batter in the inning becomes a base runner at second base after the 7th inning or if time has expired.
7. Umpires and coaches of both teams will have a pre-game conference.