

# Utah Adult Baseball Rules



## UTAH ADULT BASEBALL LEAGUE - RULES

Utah Adult Baseball Rules uses NFHS High School rules with some NCAA and other exceptions listed below.

**BALK:** If a balk occurs the ball is live, and play will continue. The opposing team may choose the result of the play or the balk. Runners must advance one base.

**DOUBLE PLAY SLIDE RULE** The college slide rule will apply. This means the runner must slide directly into the base and cannot be outside the baseline. The runner may pop up when sliding into the base. The runner may slide through the base if the slide is directly into and directly through the base on a straight line extending from the baseline through the base and the runner can still reach the base with his outstretched hand(s). If the runner slides beyond his reach of the base and interferes with the fielder making a play, the umpire may call interference if in the umpire's judgment the fielder was prevented from completing a double play. The runner may not raise a foot during a slide above the knee of the defensive player(s). There is no requirement to slide, but if the runner does not slide the runner should peel away from the line of the defensive player attempting to make a play at first.

**BATTING ORDER** Teams may bat all their players or bat only nine. If any player leaves the game, an out must be taken in that position in the lineup, unless there are nine or more hitters remaining in the lineup.

**INNINGS OF PLAY** Games will be 9 innings.

**MERCY RULE: 10** run-rule after 7 innings of play.

**BAT RESTRICTION** The bat intended to be used must be at least a -3, -2. Illegal bats include -4, -5, -6 or others and if used will subject the batter to being put out and ejected. The coach will also be ejected if the bat size rules are violated by any player on his team. Any wood or aluminum bat must be professionally manufactured to be a baseball bat. Home-made bats are not allowed. The umpire-in-chief will be the final judge of whether a bat is illegal due to the likelihood the bat is unsafe for play.

**PLAYER/COACH EJECTION** Players can be ejected if in the umpire's judgment malicious contact has occurred. Any player or coach who is ejected will be ineligible to be in the dugout for at least one additional game.

**FORFEIT** If a team forfeits (not arriving with at least 7 players), 15 minutes after the scheduled start time, the opposing team can play a makeup game. The team that forfeits will pay both umpires. Those fees must be paid to the League commissioner, prior to the next scheduled game for the forfeiting team. If both teams agree to play with less than seven players, they will be able to do so but umpires may not participate.

**SLIDE RULE** There is no must slide rule, sliding is not required, but runners must avoid contact with a fielder or be subject to being out for interference and if contact is deemed to be malicious, ejected. Incidental (unavoidable) contact is not interference.

**INCLEMENT CONDITIONS/WEATHER CANCELLATIONS** If lightning is within 5 miles and the storm is over the field or is headed in the direction of the field a 30-minute delay will take place. After 30 minutes play can resume as long as there have been no further lightning strikes within 5 miles. If in the umpire's judgement the playing field is unsafe, he should not allow the game to resume until in his judgement the playing field is safe

**HIT BY A PITCH** The rule is written at the high school level to say if a hitter permits the ball to hit him first base is NOT awarded. This is interpreted to mean that if the hitter hits the ball with a part of his body this is not being hit by the pitch. If the hitter freezes in the box and the ball hits him, this IS considered being hit by a pitch and first base should be awarded. The question is, did the ball hit the batter or did the batter hit the ball

(With any part of his body). Hitters can rotate backwards to lessen the impact of the ball and if hit by the pitched ball, should be awarded first base.

If a player is hit with a body part over the strike zone, the pitch is a strike. If the player permits a ball, that is not in the strike zone, to hit him, this is a ball, and the batter stays at the plate unless it is ball four.

**TOURNAMENT RULES** In case of a tie in record for seeding purposes, the following will apply:

1. Best Record
2. Head-to-head (tied teams). If more than two teams are tied, fewest runs allowed to common opponents.
3. Coin flip or 3 inning playoff game per the discretion of UAB.

ALL OTHER RULES WILL BE FROM THE MOST CURRENT NFHS RULE BOOK