## Colossal Sports Academy 2019 Tournament Rules

 **Tournament Fee and format**

 **Fee: 8U - $395**

 **9U thru 12U - $460**

 **13U & 14U - $560**

 **15U/16U - $595**

 **Guaranteed 3 games (weather permitting)**

## Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of rain, we will do everything within our power to make up games and stay as close to the original game schedule as possible. However, there may be circumstances in which we will need to deviate from the printed schedule. If and when this occurs, we will use the following procedures as a guide:

* our first priority will always be the safety of each individual at the facility.
* if inclement weather forces a cancellation of game slots; we may have to alter the brackets to complete the tournament. If a game cannot be played, the team with the higher seed will advance.
* a champion of the tournament will not be named without a championship game.

# Suspended Games

Games that do not make it to regulation (4 complete innings for a 6-inning game; 5 innings for a 7-inning game) due to weather / darkness will be considered a suspended game and will be resumed (if possible) from the point of suspension at the earliest time available. If there is not time to resume the game, it will be considered a complete game at the end of the last complete inning and the team that is winning at that point will be the winner. Game not suspended if time limit has expired.

## Weather Related Refund Policy

* Play No Games (Receive full credit for a future tournament or Full refund less a $100 Administrative fee
* Play only 1 Game (Receive a credit or refund of tournament fee less $200 Administrative fee)
* Play 2 games (no refund)

##  Note: Once a game starts it will count as a game played, regardless of its length.

## Insurance Requirement

Each team is required to carry its own insurance and submit a certificate of insurance to tournament officials prior to the beginning of the tournament. No team will be allowed to play until we have that information and it is verified.

**Baseballs**

Colossal Sports Academy will provide all game balls. We ask both teams to help chase foul balls on their respective bench side and return to the umpire. In the event of a homerun please return the ball to the umpire. If you like to keep it, please be prepared to replace it with a new game ball of your own.

## Time Limit

We will follow time limits for the tournament (1 hour 45 minutes for all age divisions). A new inning cannot start after the 1 hour 45 minute time limit **(Official Time will be kept by umpire)**. Games can go into extra innings as long as the time limit has not expired.  Pool games can end in a tie **(Championship Games Must Have A Winner & NO Time Limit)**. If the time limit is reached during an inning, that inning will be the last one of the game. If the home team is winning after the top half of that last inning, they will be declared the winner of the game and will not hit in the bottom half. If the home team is trailing then they must hit in the bottom half of the last inning. Intentionally delaying a game is considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will not be tolerated. If the home team is winning and batting at the 1 hour 45 minute time limit the game is halted at that point and score is recorded at that point.

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## Coin Flips

There will be NO coin flips to decide home team (unless there is a round robin type format in which we will use a coin flip). This has been predetermined. All teams will be home for at least one game. In the semi-final and championship rounds, the higher seeded team will be the home team.

### Official Scorebook

The home team will keep the official scorebook. The visiting team should check with the home team after each inning to ensure the accuracy in the score.

### Playing Rules

The interpretation of playing rules shall be that as defined by the American League of Professional Baseball Clubs (Official Baseball Rules).

**Age Cutoff Date**

Spring/Summer Tournaments: Ages as of 4/30/2019

Fall Tournaments: Ages as of 4/30/2020

#### Bat Rule

 Wood bats ONLY. No composite handles. Bats must be ALL WOOD.

#### Slide Rule

 If a defensive player is in possession of the ball, the base runner must slide or veer in order to avoid a collision. If a defensive player does not have possession of the ball, he may not block or obstruct the base runner, and must avoid a collision if possible. Any contact or collision deemed by the umpire to be intentional and avoidable shall be cause for ejection from the game of the offending player.

 **STEALING (9U and 10U)**

 A player may steal at the time the ball crosses the plate. The ruling will be an immediate dead ball if the runner leaves too soon. The first time will be a team warning, and the second time the runner will be ruled out.

####  LINEUP

 Teams will have the discretion to select one of the following options that must be declared prior to the start of the game. Further, this option must be utilized for the entire game.

### Bat the entire lineup

* + Bat nine
	+ Bat ten, utilizing an Extra Player (EP). You may only use one EP.
	+ If you are batter the order, there is NO out taken if a player must leave the game providing the lineup does not go below nine players.

 A team may start with no fewer than eight players. If a team starts with eight, any additional player(s) that shows up shall be placed at the bottom of the batting order. In a regular season TSE game, a team with only eight players will not be forced to take an out when the ninth position in the batting order comes up; however in playoff and tournament play, the ninth position shall be deemed an out.

####  DEFENSIVE SUBSTITUTIONS

 The ability to use defensive substitutions will be based on the lineup option that was selected.

* + Bat entire lineup - Unlimited defensive substitutions.
	+ Bat nine - Must following official playing rules; however, starters may re- enter (once). Further, once a sub has been removed, he may not re-enter with the exception of injury.
	+ Bat ten using an EP - Same rules as playing nine apply; however, the substitution rules apply to the ten players in the starting lineup.

####  COURTESY RUNNER

 Speed up rule - Recommended for the catcher with two outs. The runner will either be the last recorded out (if batting the lineup) or any player on the bench who is not currently in the game (batting nine or using an EP). You may also use a runner for the pitcher with two outs. This is optional. The same rule applies in the selection of the courtesy runner. The catcher will be defined as the player who will be playing that position the upcoming inning, not the inning of record.

####  BALKS

 Balks do not apply to age divisions under 11U. We will issue one warning per pitcher per game at 11U and 12U. A balk warning is a dead ball. There will be no warning at ages 13U and above. The fake to third play is still permitted without penalty.

 **DROPPED THIRD STRIKE**

 8U, 9U and 10U: The player is automatically out.

 11U and above: Major League Baseball rules

**INFIELD FLY RULE**

 8U, 9U and 10U no infield fly rule.

 11U and above: Major League Baseball rules

 **BUNTING**

9U thru 12U:  There will be no slash bunting.  Batter must bunt or pull bat back.  If batter shows bunt and swings the batter shall be ruled out.

 13U and above: Major League Baseball rules

#### Protest Opportunities

There will be no formal protests permitted to the Tournament Director. All decisions will be determined on the field by the umpires.

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#### Roster Size

Limit to participate in Tournament Play: 16

**Intentional Walk**

 Speed up rule – The pitcher or manager may inform the umpire their intention to walk the batter to first base.

#### Pitching

 NO PITCHING RESTRICTIONS (however, managers are expected to utilize their pitchers in a safe and appropriate manner) Pitchers must be removed on the 2nd visit in the same inning and cannot return as pitcher in the same game.   Pitchers are allowed 8 pitches in the first inning they appear and 5 pitches between remaining innings

 There will be NO re-entry of a pitcher at any time during the game.

####  GAME

#####  Innings

* + 12U and Below: 6 innings
	+ 13U and Above: 7 innings

 **Field Dimensions**

10U and Below: 46/60

 11U and 12U: 50/70

 13U and Above: 60/90

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####  METAL CLEATS

#####  Permitted only at 13U and Above Age Divisions

#### Code of Conduct/Sportsmanship

Any coach ejected from a game will not be permitted to coach that game and their next scheduled game. Further, they will not be permitted on the field at any point during their suspension period and must remain away from the dugout and field (Out of sight and sound). Any player ejected will sit that game and their next scheduled game.

####

 **Mercy Rule** – Six (6) inning games –

* 15 after 3 complete innings
* 10 after 4 complete innings
* 8 after 5 complete innings

 7 inning game:

* 15 after 3 complete innings
* 10 after 4 complete innings
* 8 after 5 complete innings

###  Tie Breakers (Determine Seeds)

#  1. Best Record (based on points)

#  2. Head to Head (only if two teams)

 3. Fewest Runs Allowed

 4. Net Run Differential

 5. Number of Shutouts

 6. Coin Flip

 To determine best record, we will award points as follows:

 Win – Two points

 Tie – One point

 When there are more than two teams tied, we will not look at Head to Head as a tie breaker, instead we will move to the next criteria, Fewest Runs Allowed. At no point will we reset the tie breaker as teams are seeded or eliminated. The tournament committee has the final say on tie breakers on any misunderstandings. The best advice is that if there is a question that it gets resolved before a game starts that may impact the tie breaker formula.

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##  Championship Seeding

 Depend on Age Bracket (See Schedule)

###  Documentation

 Coaches are required to have on hand – team rosters and player date of birth support. The tournament director will not collect them; however, if a player is challenged, the coach must have support for that player. A challenge may only be performed before the first pitch is thrown for that game. A challenge will not be reviewed at any other time (ie, during the game or after the game). If the coach does not have support or is ruled ineligible, the tournament director will make a final ruling on his eligibility, as well as the results of previously played games and future games.

**SPECIAL 8U TOURNAMENT RULES (in addition to the above rules):**

* You must bat the entire lineup.
* Three outs or maximum five runs per inning. No runs beyond five will be scored unless a home run over the fence. In that situation, all runs scored will count. There will be unlimited runs in the designated last inning which must be determined by both coaches/umpire before a new inning can start (dependent on time limit)
* Should a player become injured, sick, etc., an automatic out shall not be recorded, even if the batting order becomes less than nine players.
* Once a player is removed from the batter order, he may not re-enter the game.
* Free defensive substitutions are allowed.
* Infield fly rule is not in effect.
* Three outfielders.
* No straight steals permitted.
* Runners may advance to 2nd and 3rd on a clear passed ball. (Beyond backstop end post to end post.). Runners may not steal home. Runners may not score on a passed ball or wild pitch.
* If runners are on first and third, and a play is made at second base on a steal, the runner from third may not advance.
* If a play is made on a runner stealing third on a wild pitch, the runner may not advance to home on an overthrow.
* Runners at 3rd base must be “plated home”. Runners at 3rd are not permitted to take home on a wild pitch/passed ball, throwback to the pitcher or as a result of “baiting” the catcher.
* Runner advancement stops when the pitcher maintains control of the ball on the pitcher’s mound area.
* Bunting is allowed. Fake bunting is prohibited. If a batter fakes a bunt and pulls back and swings at the pitch, the batter will be called out.
* All runners may advance if a pitcher, catcher or any other fielder makes a play at a base that results in an overthrow (with the exception of third base by a catcher and when the bases are loaded and a play at first or second base after the pitch has been made).
* A “bad” throw from the catcher to the pitcher will not be deemed an overthrow.
* Pitching: 2 innings per game. 10 innings for tournament.
* One pitch equals one inning pitched.
* A pitcher may not re-enter the game as a pitcher once removed.