



## 2017 Gopher State Baseball Spring Invationals RULES & REGULATIONS



The following rules and regulations will govern play in the Gopher State Spring Invationals. The official rules will be the National Federation of State High School rules except where modified below. Any situations not covered here or in the National Federation rule book will be determined by the Tournament Committee, which consists of the Tournament Director, the Umpire in Chief and the Tournament Host. ***It is your responsibility to read, understand and adhere to all rules.***

**Notice:** *Coaches:* You or an adult representative (team manager) must check your team in at the designated Tournament Headquarters prior to playing your first game.

**Eligibility:** All teams must be from a bona fide baseball association or accepted school program. Teams that participate in a AAA level traveling baseball league must compete at the AAA level in the Gopher State Spring Invationals. The MYAS organization and team classification guidelines are available to view at [www.myas.org](http://www.myas.org).

May 1, 2017 will be the determining date for the age of the competitor. Any player competing in a specific age division must remain in the same age division throughout competition. ***Coaches are expected to have each player's proof of age in their possession.*** Should an eligibility protest be filed during the tournament, you must be able to prove a player's eligibility. If a player is found to be ineligible after a team's first game has begun, that team will be will disqualified from further participation in that tournament.

The following documents are acceptable as proof of age (to be presented at check-in):

- \* A photocopy of a birth record from the state, county or municipal bureau of vital statistics on the place of birth; **hospital records are not acceptable**
- \* Current valid Passport
- \* A photocopy of the delayed registration of birth, if the athlete's birth was not recorded on the day of birth, issued by the same bodies
- \* Consular Service form FS-240, "Report on Birth" issued by the U.S. State Department
- \* Immigration and Naturalization forms I-151 and I-25 and form number 43-R311-7 issued by the U.S. Department of Justice

**Unsportsmanlike  
Conduct:**

Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated on any level in MYAS baseball events. Any player, coach, manager or spectator ejected from a contest for **flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct** will be ejected for the **remainder of the tournament and will not be permitted to be within the tournament facility.** Some examples of "flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct" include but are not limited to abuse of game and/or tournament officials, cheating (use of a declared ineligible player), fighting, repeated use of profane language, etc. The Protest Committee may review the disqualification, but **only** if the situation merits further consideration. Any ruling by the Protest Committee is final. The Protest Committee consists of the Tournament Director, the Tournament Host and the Umpire in Chief.

**Home/Visitor:** **All games – the home team will be determined by a coin flip.**

**Infield Practice:** "Taking infield" will not be allowed prior to tournament games.

**Gate Fee:** The \$100 gate fee will be handed in during check-in at tournament headquarters prior to the start of the tournament. This fee eliminates any on-site gate (spectator entrance or parking) fee.

**Game Length:** 10-12 & Under: 6 innings

13U and Above: 7 innings

**Time Limits:** 10-12 & Under: 1 hour, 45 minutes 13U and Above: 2 hours

**Note:** The “stop watch” for games does not begin until the actual start of the game (first official pitch thrown), not necessarily the time listed on the tournament schedule. No new inning will be started after time has expired. **There will be no time limits for bracket play games.**

### **Pitching/**

**Base Distances:**

|                |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| 10 & Under:    | 46 feet/60-65 feet        |
| 11 & Under     | 46 feet/65 feet           |
| 12-13 & Under: | 52 feet/75-80 feet        |
| 14U and Above: | 60 feet, 6 inches/90 feet |

**Note:** Portable (temporary) pitching mounds may be used in the 10U-13U divisions.

### **Pitching**

**Restrictions:** **10 & Under:** A player may pitch a maximum of three innings in any individual game but no more than five innings in one day and no more than seven innings total for the two-day tournament.

**11 and 12 & Under:** A player may pitch a maximum of three innings in any individual game but no more than five innings in one day and no more than eight innings total for the two-day tournament.

**13 and 14 & Under:** A player may pitch a maximum of four innings in any individual game but no more than six innings in one day and no more than 10 innings total for the two-day tournament.

**Note:** One pitch in an inning constitutes an inning pitched. Pitchers’ innings will be posted at the Tournament Headquarters.

**PENALTY for pitching violations:** The head coach of the team will be ejected from that game and the next scheduled game. A **second** occurrence during the tournament results in suspension of the head coach and pitcher (from the pitcher’s position) for the remainder of the tournament, as well as possible imposition of further sanctions subject to the review of the MYAS Baseball Board of Advisors.

**Note:** Curve balls are **not** allowed in the 10-12 & under age divisions. First offense – warning; second offense – ejection from the pitcher’s position.

### **Additional Innings:**

In the event of an uneven pool/bracket (example: teams in certain pools play more games to advance to bracket play than in other pools, or teams advance into a bracket that has byes for the top teams) the following will be awarded:

Each team will be awarded two more innings to each pitcher’s total for the weekend. **This exception only applies when one team has played fewer total games during the tournament than their current opponent.**

**Balk Rule:** **10-11 & Under ONLY:** No balks will be called.

**Metal Cleats:** Metal cleats are prohibited for 10U-12U teams. Metal cleats may be worn in the 13U and older age divisions.

**10-Run Rule:** **10-12 & Under:** The game will end at the conclusion of 3½ innings if the home team is ahead by 10 or more runs. The game will end after four innings if the visiting team is ahead by 10 or more runs.

**13U & Above:** The game will end at the conclusion of 4½ innings if the home team is ahead by 10 or more runs. The game will end after five innings if the visiting team is ahead by 10 or more runs.

**15-Run Rule:** The 15-run rule will apply after three innings (2½ if the home team is ahead). This rule applies to all ages and divisions.

**Designated Hitter  
(Free Substitution/  
Continuous Batting):**

National Federation rules apply for all age divisions. **However, in the 10-13 & Under divisions, teams will use continuous batting order and implement free substitution.**

**Base Running:**

**10 & Under:** A runner may leave the base after the ball crosses the plate. The runner is out upon leaving the base early. On a dropped third strike, the batter is out and the base runners may advance at their own risk.

**11 & Under:** A runner may leave the base after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. The runner is out upon leaving the base early.

**12U and Above:** National Federation rules apply.

**Note:** In the 10, 11 and 12 & Under divisions, a player sliding head first into home base will be called out.

**Re-Entry Rule:**

**Starting Pitcher (all ages/divisions):** If the starting pitcher is replaced, they may re-enter to pitch once during the game. This applies only to the starting pitcher.

**Note:** The re-entry rules do not apply to 10-13 year old teams that are using continuous batting and free substitution (excluding pitchers).

**Starting Players:** Any of the starting players may withdraw and re-enter once, including a player who was the designated hitter, provided said player occupies the same position in the batting order whenever they are in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter.

**Exception:** Replacement of injured players and/or courtesy runners. If an active player sustains an injury that requires them to leave the game and their team has used all of their available substitute players, the coach may substitute for the injured player with the first player on the bench who had previously lost their eligibility via the re-entry rule.

**Courtesy Runner:**

A courtesy runner (the last runner to be put out) will be allowed only for the catcher and **only** when there are two outs.

**Baseballs:**

Two Gopher State Diamond baseballs will be provided for all games.

**Equipment:**

All bats, helmets, catcher's gear, footwear and other equipment must conform to National Federation of High Schools rules and regulations.

**Bat Rules:**

All bats must comply with the new bat regulations adopted by USA Baseball for the 2017 season. All regulations are posted under the Baseball portion of the [www.myas.org](http://www.myas.org) website.

*Drop Rules:* The 14U age division will use the "-5" drop rule. The 12U-13U divisions will use the "-10" rule. The 10U-11U divisions may use any drop size they desire.

**Uniforms:**

Team jerseys should be of **identical** color and should have a six-inch number on the front or the back.

**Forfeits:**

Tournament officials will administer the rule so that any team that *purposely causes a forfeit for their own benefit* will **NOT** advance to the championship round unless the Tournament Committee determines there were extenuating circumstances causing the forfeit.

**Fine:** If any team forfeits a game they will be assessed a fine.

**First Offense:** \$100

**Second Offense:** \$200 and the team will be suspended from MYAS events for one year pending appeal to the MYAS Board of Advisors.

**Team Rosters:**

Rosters may consist of no more than 18 players. Coaches must input their rosters online at [www.myas.org](http://www.myas.org) through the Coaches Control Center.

**Awards:** **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Individual awards and a team trophy

**Weather Information:** **Please call your specific Tournament Director first!** In case of rain or inclement weather please contact your Tournament Director for any schedule changes, cancellations, etc. Updates will be available on the tournament website as soon as possible. Log on to [www.myas.org](http://www.myas.org) in order to determine if your game has been canceled, postponed or rescheduled.

## **MYAS REFUND POLICY**

1. A team may drop out and receive a full refund up to 14 days before the start of the tournament.
2. Teams dropping out within two weeks of a tournament will **NOT** receive a refund.
3. If a tournament should have to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e. weather, loss of electricity, etc.) a prorated portion of your entry fee will be returned based on the number of games played.
4. If a tournament is cancelled, with no games played, due to any of the above reasons, teams may elect a 75% refund of their entry fee or have 100% of their entry fee applied to a future MYAS event.