



## 2017 Gopher State/USSSA August Bash Rules & Regulations as of 1/5/17

The following rules and regulations will govern play in the Gopher State/USSSA August Bash. 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 MYAS Tournament Director, the Head of Officials and the Tournament Host. ***It is your responsibility to read, understand and adhere to the 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. Teams will be withheld from competition until they have completed the pre-event check-in process.

**Eligibility:**

August Bash rosters are classified as “Open.” There are no restrictions or geographic boundaries. May 1, 2018, at 12:00am is the determining date for the age of the competitor. See chart below for age cut-offs.

13u	May not turn 14 before May 1, 2018
14u	May not turn 15 before May 1, 2018
15u	May not turn 16 before May 1, 2018
16u	May not turn 17 before May 1, 2018
17-18u	May not turn 19 before May 1, 2018



**Note:** A player may only be rostered on one team participating in this USSSA tournament. ***You must provide proof of age for each player who has not already been age verified through the MYAS system.*** Should an eligibility protest be filed during the tournament, you must be able to prove the player's eligibility. If a player is found to be ineligible after a team's first game has started, both the player and the team will be disqualified.

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

- A photocopy of their birth record from the state, county or municipal bureau of vital statistics on the place of birth; **hospital records are not acceptable**
- 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
- Current valid Passport
- Current valid Driver's License
- Age documentation on school letterhead

**Unsportsmanlike Conduct:**

**Any PLAYER, COACH, MANAGER OR SPECTATOR ejected from a game will also be suspended for the following tournament game.** These penalties may carry over to future MYAS events.

The MYAS Protest Committee may impose penalties against any association, team, coach, manager, player or spectator for unsportsmanlike conduct or other actions considered detrimental to the MYAS baseball program. 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 remain within the tournament facility.** Some examples of “flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct” include but are not limited to cheating (use of a declared ineligible player), fighting, repeated use of profane language, etc. The Protest Committee may review the disqualification 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 Head of Officials.

**Tournament Seeding:**

Teams will be arranged in pools/brackets in a semi-random fashion.

## Home Team

**Determination:** The home/visiting team for all games will be determined at the pre-game meeting via coin flip by the umpire.

**Infield Practice:** "Taking infield" will not be allowed prior to tournament games. Our host organizations would appreciate all pre-game warm ups be done only in the outfield or in the infield foul territory.

**Game Length:** 13U-18U: 7 innings

**Time Limits:** 13U-18U: 2 hours

**Note:** The "stop watch" for pool play games does not begin until the actual start of the game (the first pitch) and not necessarily the time listed on the tournament schedule. No new inning will be started after time has expired.

If a game is tied at the end of regulation and the time limit has not been reached, extra innings will be played. Extra Innings will be played until a winner is determined or the time limit is reached.

***There will be no time limits for games played on Sunday.***

**Pitching / Base Distances:** 13 and under: 52-54 feet / 75-80 feet  
14's and above: 60 feet, 6 inches / 90 feet

**Note:** Portable or temporary pitching mounds may be used in the 13u division.

**Pitching Restrictions:** **13u, 14u, 15u, 16u:** A player may pitch a maximum of 95 pitches in a tournament

**17-18u:** A player may pitch a maximum of 105 pitches in a tournament

**Note:** If a player reaches their maximum number of allowed pitches during an at-bat, they may finish pitching to that batter but then must immediately be removed from the pitching position. Pitchers' pitch counts will be posted at the Tournament Headquarters

**PENALTY for violations of pitching restrictions:** The head coach will be ejected from that game and the next scheduled game. The offending pitcher will be suspended from the pitching position for the following game. The **second offense** during the same tournament results in suspension of the coach for the remainder of that tournament, as well as possible imposition of further sanctions subject to the review of the MYAS Baseball Board of Advisors.

**Additional Innings:** If a team is in an uneven pool or bracket and is required to play more games than the other teams, they will be awarded three more innings to each pitcher's total once for the duration of the tournament.

**Umpires:** Two umpires will be used in all games.

**Metal Cleats:** Metal cleats are prohibited in 12u. However, metal cleats may be worn in the 13u and older age divisions.

**10-Run Rule:** **13u & above:** The game will end at the conclusion of 5 innings (4½ if the home team is ahead by 10 or more runs).

**15-Run Rule:** The 15-run rule will apply after 3 innings (2½ if the home team is ahead). This rule applies to all ages and divisions.

<b>Base Running:</b>	National Federation rules apply.  <b>RUNNERS ARE NEVER REQUIRED TO SLIDE</b> , but if a runner elects to slide, the slide must be legal. Jumping, hurdling, and leaping are all legal attempts to avoid a fielder as long as the fielder is lying on the ground. Diving over a fielder is illegal.  For any questions regarding Interference and/or Obstruction rule interpretations, reference Interference and Obstruction in the NFHS rule book.
<b>Continuous Batting/ Free Substitution:</b>	<b>13u teams</b> will use continuous batting and free substitution. <b>No exceptions!</b>  <b>NOTE for 13u Continuous Batting:</b> An injured batter or runner that cannot continue to participate will be replaced by the last player to be put out. This will end the injured player's participation for the remainder of that game. This will NOT be recorded as an out unless it drops the batting line-up below nine players.  <b>Please see <i>Continuous Batting / Free Sub FAQ</i> under "Documents" on the Baseball page of <a href="http://www.myas.org">www.myas.org</a>.</b>
<b>Starting Pitcher:</b>	<b>This rule applies for all ages:</b> The starting pitcher may be withdrawn and re-enter once. This applies only to the starting pitcher.
<b>14-18u Re-Entry: (NFHS Rule 3-1)</b>	<b>Starting Players:</b> Any of the starting players may withdraw and re-enter once, including a player who was the designated hitter (any starting player, not just pitchers), 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.  <b>Exception:</b> 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.  <b>NOTE: 14u-18u teams will have the option to use free substitution and continuous batting.</b> This must be declared to the umpire and the opposing head coach prior to the start of the game and will continue for the remainder of that game.  Each team's lineup must list a minimum of nine players to start a game. A game will be forfeited to the offended team when a team is unable to provide nine players to start the game or cannot provide eight players to finish the game (NFHS Rule 4-4-1f).  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A "rostered" player may be placed at the end of your lineup if he/she is not present at the start of the game (this applies to teams that start a game with nine players).</li><li>2. An injured batter or runner that cannot continue to participate will be replaced by the last player to be put out. This will end the injured player's participation for the remainder of the game.</li><li>3. An out will be called at that spot in the batting order ONLY if a team drops below nine players.</li></ol>
<b>Courtesy Runner:</b>	<b>13's:</b> A courtesy runner (the last runner to be put out) will be allowed only for the catcher and <b>only</b> when there are two outs.  <b>14's and above:</b> Will use the NFHS courtesy runner rule (NFHS pg. 64 Speed Up Rules). At any time, the team at bat may use courtesy runners for the pitcher or catcher. Projected substitutions are not allowed. Courtesy runners are only allowed for the catcher of record. Players who have already participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners until all players have participated.
<b>Baseballs:</b>	Two Gopher State Diamond baseballs will be provided for all games. If additional baseballs are needed, teams should supply them alternately.
<b>Equipment:</b>	All bats, helmets, catcher's gear, footwear and other equipment must conform to National Federation rules and regulations.

<b>Bat Rule:</b>	All bats must comply with the <b>MYAS/Gopher State/USSSA Bat Standards</b> for the 2017 season. All regulations are found on pages 5 and 6 of this manual or under the Baseball portion of the <a href="http://www.myas.org">www.myas.org</a> website.  <b>Drop Rules:</b> The 15u and above age divisions will use the “-3” drop rule (may use “-5”); the 14u age division will use the “-5”(may use “-3”) drop rule; and the 13u division will use the “-10” rule.  <b>NOTE:</b> With the transition from spring/summer to fall, the MYAS/Gopher State will be flexible with ages when there is a change in the length to weight ratio or bat drop (i.e. 14u and 15u).
<b>Uniforms:</b>	Team jerseys should be of <b>identical</b> color and should have at least a six-inch number on the front and/or the back.
<b>Forfeits:</b>	Tournament officials will administer the rule so that any team that intentionally causes a forfeit will <b>NOT</b> benefit and will <b>NOT</b> advance to the championship round unless the Tournament Committee determines there were extenuating circumstances causing the forfeit.  <b>A game will be considered a forfeit when a team is unable to provide at least nine players to start the game or cannot provide eight players to finish the game.</b>  <b>A 10-minute grace period will be given for a team’s first pool play game. All other tournament games will be considered a forfeit at the scheduled game time.</b>
<b>Forfeit Fines:</b>	If any team forfeits a game they will be assessed a fine. <b>First Offense:</b> \$100; <b>Second Offense:</b> \$200 and the team will be suspended from MYAS events for one year pending appeal to the MYAS Baseball Board of Advisors.
<b>Roster Limit:</b>	Rosters may consist of no more than 18 players. Your roster is frozen once it is submitted to the MYAS office. In the case of injuries players may be added, but coaches must clear additions with the MYAS baseball office. It is <b>mandatory</b> that coaches input their rosters through the Coaches Control Center at <a href="http://www.myas.org">www.myas.org</a> .
<b>Tourney Information:</b>	<b>Please call your specific Tournament Director first! This is the individual located at Tournament Headquarters.</b> In case of rain or inclement weather, log onto <a href="http://www.myas.org">www.myas.org</a> in the Gopher State August Bash portion of the website in order to determine if your game has been canceled, postponed or rescheduled.
<b>Awards:</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Place:</b> Team trophy

## MYAS Refund Policy

- If a team drops out of a tournament prior to the entry deadline, a full refund will be issued.
- Teams dropping out of a tournament after the entry deadline will **NOT** receive a refund.
- 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.
- If a tournament is cancelled, with no games played, due to any of the above reasons, teams can elect a 75% refund of their entry fee or have 100% of their entry fee applied to a future MYAS event.

## **MYAS/Gopher State/USSSA Bat Standards**

Over the past few years, USSSA, the national governing body for the majority of MYAS/Gopher State baseball programs, has developed baseball bat performance standards. The standards that were implemented prior to the 2012 season encompass the regulation of big barrel (larger than 2¼” in diameter) and small barrel (2¼” or less) bats. These standards must be used in all MYAS/Gopher State baseball programs. All bats must be manufactured by an approved USSSA bat licensee and have the new USSSA mark on its taper, be a qualified BBCOR bat or a wood bat.

The USSSA finger print of 1.15 BPF is based on fundamental laws of physics that measure the relative performance of bats to be used in USSSA play. A qualified BBCOR bat stands for “Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution” and it focuses on how much of a trampoline effect the barrel of a bat has on a ball. Bat manufacturers will have to in effect “deadened” the trampoline bounce that pitched balls experience when a batter makes contact. Basically, aluminum bats will theoretically be the same as wooden bats.

The following describes the legality of bats for all MYAS/Gopher State/MN USSSA programs:

### **9-14 year old teams:**

**Big Barrel Bats** (larger than 2¼ inches in diameter) - only the following big barrel bats made by approved USSSA licensed manufacturers will be allowed in USSSA play:

- 1) A bat made with the **NEW** USSSA mark (see image); or
- 2) A qualified BBCOR bat; or
- 3) A wooden bat



**Small Barrel Bats** (2¼ inches in diameter) - only the following small barrel bats made by approved USSSA licensed manufacturers will be allowed in USSSA play:

- 1) A bat made with the **NEW** USSSA mark (see image); or
- 2) A wooden bat



**Note: The old USSSA mark is not valid in 2015**

### **15-19 year old teams:**

**All 15u to 17-19u programs will follow the bat standards adopted by the National Federation of State High School Associations.**

MYAS/Gopher State/Minnesota USSSA will continue its policy for 15-19 year olds in following the bat standards adopted by the NFHS. Therefore, if a bat is legal under the NFHS rules, it is legal in all MYAS/Gopher State/Minnesota USSSA programs. Conversely, if it is not legal for NFHS play, it is not legal for MYAS/Gopher State/Minnesota USSSA play.

## **NFHS BASEBALL CHANGES**

Rule 1-3-2: The bat, which may be a wood or non-wood product, shall be a smooth implement, from the top of the cap to the top of the knob. All non-wood bats shall meet the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) performance standard, and such bats shall be labeled with a silk screen or other permanent certification mark.

## MYAS/Gopher State August Bash Bat Guidelines

Listed below are bat specifications for teams participating in the Gopher State August Bash in 2016. This specification is in addition to the USSSA Bat Performance Standards. All bats must include the NEW USSSA Mark OR be a qualified BBCOR bat and also MUST follow the size and/or weight differential listed in the chart below.

Age	Maximum diameter @ thickest part	Length	Weight Differential	Example
12's-13's	2¼"	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
	2½"	36" or less	-10	31-inch bat cannot weigh less than 21 ounces
14's (may use -5 in August Bash)	2¾"	36" or less	-10	
	2⅝"	36" or less	-10	
15's (may use -3 in August Bash)	2¾"	36" or less	-5	32-inch bat cannot weigh less than 27 ounces
16u & 17-18u	2⅝"	36" or less	-3	32-inch bat cannot weigh less than 29 ounces

