

# 2018 Rec State Baseball Championship Rules and Regulations

The following rules and regulations will govern play in the Rec State Baseball Championship, **with no exceptions. 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 the rules.***

## **Notice**

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

## **Eligibility:**

**May 1, 2018, at 12:01am** is the determining date for the age of the player. However, if a player is too old for an age division but meets the grade criteria, they may compete in the older age group. For example, if the player is 11 but still in fourth grade, the player may compete in the 10U/4<sup>th</sup> grade division.

Any player competing in a specific age division must remain in the same age division throughout competition. ***You must submit applicable proof of age or grade level for each player along with your other entry materials (see acceptable documents below).***

A team must compete at the same level or at the level higher than they competed in during the 2018 season.

Should an eligibility protest be filed during the tournament, a team must be able to prove each player's eligibility. Players without proof of age or grade level will be disqualified and could force your team to forfeit. The grade levels will correspond to the players' grades during the 2017-2018 school year.

**One of the following applicable documents must be submitted with your entry materials for any player that is not already grade and/or age verified:**

- 2017-2018 report card showing player's grade
- 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 accepted**
- 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

**Tournament Philosophy:** The purpose of an in-house tournament is to allow players who do not compete at the traveling level to participate in a tournament against teams with similar experience.

**Eligibility Requirements:** No in-house team may add players with travel team experience. Traveling teams are defined as teams that play in AAA and/or AA level tournaments or in AAA or AA level travel baseball leagues. Any team that is found to use an illegal player(s) will be disqualified from the tournament and will also be prohibited from competing in the 2018 Rec State Baseball Championship unless the illegal player(s) is discovered prior to the start of competition, in which case only the illegal player(s) is disqualified. **Note:** Teams/players may not participate in both the 2018 Gopher State Tournament of Champions and the 2018 Rec State Baseball Championship. The MYAS reserves

the right to review any team's eligibility for the Rec State Baseball Championship.

**The Rec State Baseball Championship is a community-based program.** Players that make up official rosters are eligible to participate on teams that are from the community of their parent's or legal guardian's residence or from their school attendance area. Rec State will recognize a team if they are part of a bona fide association (consisting of multiple teams of perpetual nature) within their community. Individual teams that are formed from outside an association will not knowingly be allowed to participate in the tournament under any circumstances. Teams must be formed by their community via a democratic, non-biased process (i.e. random draw, draft).

**Note:** If you would like further clarification on team or player eligibility, please call Bobby Strickland at (763) 746-1735 prior to sending in your registration. Some cases may require further review by the MYAS baseball staff.

**Player Additions:** Teams are allowed to add up to two players to their original in-house roster (18 player limit). Players added to teams must be current players from your own in-house league. Your In-House Director must verify your team prior to the tournament by signing your official tournament roster. **Traveling teams or All-Star teams will NOT knowingly be allowed to play in the Rec State Championship.**

**Team Gate Fee:** Each participating team must pay a pre-tournament gate fee to the host **PRIOR** to playing their first game. This fee eliminates any on-site gate (spectator admission or parking) fee. You will not be allowed to play your first game until the gate fee is paid to the **Tournament Host**. Additional information on the gate fee is available on the MYAS website ([www.myas.org](http://www.myas.org)).

**Conduct Policy:** Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated on any level in MYAS baseball events. All coaches and players must sign a code of conduct prior to their first game. 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 the game officials, use of a declared ineligible player, fighting, repeated use of profane language, etc. The Protest Committee (the Tournament Director, the Tournament Host and the Umpire in Chief) may review the disqualification but **only** if the situation merits further consideration. **Every player and coach must sign the Code of Conduct before the first game of the tournament.**

**Tournament Format:** The MYAS has adopted a tournament format that guarantees a minimum of three games. Bracket and/or pool play systems will be used based on the number of teams entered and field availability. However, the MYAS reserves the right to adjust the tournament format to best serve the exact number of participating teams.

**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.

**Game Length:** 10U/4<sup>th</sup>-12U/6<sup>th</sup> grade: 6 innings; 1 hour 45 minutes  
13U/7<sup>th</sup>-15U 9<sup>th</sup> grade: 7 innings; 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. **There will be no time limits for the Semifinals, Third Place and Championship games.**

**Time Limits:** Time limits pertain to all pool play games and all bracket play through the quarterfinal games. Semifinal, Third Place and Championship games will be played to completion. **Note:** There will be a 10-minute grace period for a team's first tournament game only.

**In Case of a Tie:**

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 has been reached. For the interest of pool play tie breaker situations, a tie game will be scored as ½ of a win and ½ of a loss.

<b>Pitching/Base Distances:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> grade/10U:	46 feet / 60 feet
	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade/11U-12U:	52 feet / 75 feet
	7 <sup>th</sup> grade/13U:	52 feet / 75 feet
	8 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> grade/14U-15U:	60 feet 6 inches / 90 feet

**Note:** Portable (temporary) pitching mounds **may** be used in 4<sup>th</sup> grade/10U-7<sup>th</sup> grade/13U grade tournaments.

<b>Pitching Restrictions:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> grade/10U:	A player may pitch a maximum 95 pitches total for the three day tournament, but no more than 75 in any one day.
	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade/11U-12U:	A player may pitch a maximum of 105 pitches total for the three day tournament, but no more than 85 in any one day.
	7 <sup>th</sup> grade/13U:	A player may pitch a maximum 115 pitches total for the three day tournament, but no more than 95 in any one day.
	8 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> grade/14U-15U:	A player may pitch a maximum 115 pitches total for the three day tournament, but no more than 95 in any one day.

**Note:** If a pitcher 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. Pitcher's pitch counts will be posted at the Tournament Headquarters.

**Note:** In Continuous Batting/Free substitution, only the starting pitcher may re-enter the pitching position, and only once.

Curve balls are **not** allowed in the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade/10U and 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade/11U-12U divisions. The **first offense** will be a warning; the **second offense** will be an ejection from the pitcher's position.

**PENALTY for Violations of Pitching Restrictions:** The head coach of the team will be ejected from that game and for 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.

**Balk Rule:** **10U/4<sup>th</sup> Grade:** No balks will be called.

**All other divisions:** Any fake pitch will be considered a balk. Warnings will be issued on all other infractions.

**Umpires:** One certified high school umpire will be used in all games prior to the semifinal, championship and 3<sup>rd</sup> place games, where two umpires will be used in all divisions.

**Metal Cleats:** Metal cleats are prohibited in the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade/10U and 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade/11U-12U divisions. Metal cleats may be worn in all older divisions.



**10-Run Rule:** **4<sup>th</sup> Grade/10U and 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade/11U-12U:** 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.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade/13U and 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade/14U-15U:** 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:** **All Ages and Divisions:** The game will end at the conclusion of 2½ innings if the home team is ahead by 15 or more runs. The game will end after 3 innings if the visiting team is ahead by 15 or more runs.

**Scoring Limitations:** **4<sup>th</sup> Grade/10U and 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade/11U-12U:** five runs per inning

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade/13U and 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade/14U-15U:** seven runs per inning

**Note:** The designated final inning will have unlimited runs for both the home and away teams.

**Batting:** Continuous batting is mandatory for all age groups. Everyone bats, but only nine play in the field.

**NOTE on Continuous Batting:** 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. It will **not** be recorded as an out unless it drops the batting lineup below nine players.

**Substitution:** Free substitution is allowed in the field. However, each player must play in at least two of the first four innings. **Note:** Your batting lineup never changes for that game.

**Bunting:** Bunting will be allowed in every age group.

**Base Running:** **4<sup>th</sup> Grade/10U:** The runner may lead off after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand, but may not steal. After a team warning, a player will be called out for leaving a base too soon. This is a judgment call by the umpire.

**5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade/11U-12U, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade/13U, & 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade/14U-15U:** The runner may lead off and steal according to NFHS rules

**Note:** In the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade/10U & 11U-12U/6<sup>th</sup> grade divisions, a player sliding head first into home plate will be called out.

**Runners are never required to slide** 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 (NFHS rule 8-4-2-b-2).

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade/10U grade division only:** a catcher may attempt to throw out a runner if the player has left the base after the ball has left the pitcher's hand. The runner may advance if the ball is then overthrown, but they advance at their own risk. A player may **not** advance on a pitched passed ball.

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

**Dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> Strike:** **4<sup>th</sup> Grade/10U:** Batters may not advance on a dropped third strike.

**5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade/11U-12U, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade/13U, & 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade/14U-15U:** Batters may advance on a dropped third strike according to NFHS rules.



- Calling Time:** Time is called when the ball is in the pitcher's hand.
- Baseballs:** Two MYAS baseballs will be provided for all games. If additional baseballs are needed, teams should supply them alternately.
- Uniforms:** Team jerseys should be of identical color and should have at least a six-inch number on the front and/or the back.
- Equipment:** All bats, helmets, catcher's gear, footwear and other equipment must conform to National Federation rules and regulations.
- Forfeits:** Forfeits will be recorded with a score of 7-0. MYAS officials will administer the rule so that any team which purposely causes a forfeit for their own benefit may not advance to the championship round unless the Tournament Committee determines there were extenuating circumstances causing the forfeit. Any team causing a forfeit will be assessed a \$100.00 fee (cash) for each game that is not able to be played.
- Note:** There will be a 10-minute grace period for a team's first tournament game only.
- Tournament Seeding:** Teams will be arranged in pools or brackets in a semi-random fashion. Every possible effort will be made to avoid placing teams together that are from the same association/community.
- Inclement Weather:** **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. You may also log onto [www.myas.org](http://www.myas.org) to determine if your game has been canceled, postponed or rescheduled.
- In the event of inclement weather during the tournament, the MYAS Tournament Director and/or MYAS baseball staff members reserve the right to adjust the tournament format to assist with the progression of the tournament.
- Awards:** **1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> place:** Teams will receive individual player awards and a team trophy.

## MYAS Refund Policy

If a team drops out of a tournament prior to the entry deadline, a full refund will be issued.

Any team 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 either a 75% refund of their entry fee or have 100% of their entry fee applied to a future MYAS event.