

2022 Minnesota Gopher State Midsummer Classic Rules & Regulations

The following rules and regulations will govern play in the Gopher State Midsummer Classic. 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 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 in your team 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: All “AAA”, “AA”, or “A” traveling teams from the state of **Minnesota** are eligible to participate. All teams must be from a bona fide baseball association to participate. The MYAS Baseball Board of Advisors reserves the right to review the eligibility of any team. No “Major” division teams will be allowed to participate. The MYAS organization guidelines are available to view at www.myas.org.

Teams that participate in an “AAA” level traveling baseball league must compete at the “AAA” level for the Gopher State Midsummer Classic. “AA” level traveling teams have the option of competing in the “AAA” or “AA” level in the State Tournament. The “A” level Midsummer Classic is strictly designed for teams that compete in an “A” and/or recreational baseball league or program.

Players in their respective age groups must not reach the next age level before May 1, 2022.

Note: A player may only participate on **one** team in **one** age/division of the Midsummer Classic. 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
- * Electronic platforms such as “Schoolview” showing current student records and birthdate.

Pitching Restrictions: **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 Board of Advisors.

Curve balls will **NOT** be allowed in the 10-12u age divisions. Fastballs, knuckleballs and changeups are the only pitches allowed in the 10-12u age divisions. **First offense** – warning; **second offense** – ejection from the pitcher's position.

Balk Rule: **9u, 10u & 11u ONLY:** No balks will be called.

Umpires: **9-13u:** One MYAS certified umpire will be used in all games, except the championship and third place games; for those games the goal is to have two MYAS certified umpires will be used.

14's and above: The goal is to have two MYAS certified umpires will be used in all games.

Metal Cleats: Metal cleats are prohibited in 10-12u. However, metal cleats may be worn in the 13u and older age divisions.

10-Run Rule: **9-12u:** The game will end at the conclusion of 4 innings (3½ if the home team is ahead by 10 or more runs).

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 three innings (2½ if the home team is ahead). This rule applies to all ages and divisions.

Base Running: **9-10u:** 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.

NOTE for 9u tournament play: A runner occupying 3rd base may only advance to home on a batted ball or an attempted play on a runner.

NOTE for 10u tournament play: A runner is allowed to advance/steal home on a passed ball.

11u: A runner may leave the base after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. 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.

In the 9-11 & under divisions, a player sliding head first into home plate will be called out.

12's and above: National Federation rules apply.

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.

For any questions regarding Interference and/or Obstruction rule interpretations, reference Interference and Obstruction in the NFHS rule book.

**Continuous Batting/
Free Substitution:**

9-13u and 14/15A teams will use continuous batting and free substitution. **No Exceptions!**

14AAA, and 14AA will have the option to use continuous batting and free substitution. 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.

NOTE 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. This will **NOT** be recorded as an out unless it drops the batting line-up below nine players.

Please see **Continuous Batting/Free Substitution FAQ** under documents on the baseball page of www.myas.org.

Starting Pitcher:

This rule applies for all ages (10-19u): The starting pitcher may be withdrawn and re-enter once. This applies only to the starting pitcher.

**14-19u Re-Entry:
(NFHS Rule 3-1)**

Starting Players: 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.

NOTE for 14AAA/AA: The Extra Hitter (EH) option will **NOT** be used in tournament play.

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:

9-13u & 14/15A: A courtesy runner (the last runner to be put out) will be allowed only for the catcher and **only** when there are two outs.

14AAA/AA and above: 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.

Baseballs:

Two Gopher State Diamond baseballs will be provided for all games. If additional baseballs are needed, teams should supply them alternately.

Equipment:

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

Bat Rule:

All bats must comply with the **MYAS/Gopher State/USSSA Bat Standards** for the 2022 season. All regulations are posted under the Baseball portion of the www.myas.org website.

Drop Rules: The 15u and above age divisions will use the "-3" drop rule. The 14u age division will use the "-5" drop rule. The 12u-13u divisions will use the "-10" rule. The 9u-11u divisions may use any drop size they desire.

Uniforms:

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

Forfeits:

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

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. 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.

- Forfeit Fines:** 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 Baseball Board of Advisors.
- Roster Limit:** 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 mandatory that coaches input their rosters through the Coaches Control Center at www.myas.org.
Note: A player may only be rostered on one team.
- Tourney Information:** **Please call your specific Tournament Director first! This is the individual located at Tournament Headquarters.** In case of rain or inclement weather, log onto www.myas.org in the Gopher State Midsummer Classic portion of the website in order to determine if your game has been canceled, postponed or rescheduled.
- Awards:** **1st – 4th Place:** Individual awards
NOTE: Awards will be prorated for any division with fewer than eight teams.
- GSTC Berths:** **The Champion and Runner-Up of the Gopher State Midsummer Classic will earn a berth to their designated Gopher State Tournament of Champions in July.** If the tournament has under six teams, then just the Champion receives the berth. This tournament has also been designated as a “Double Points” Tournament toward the GSTC.

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.



WWW.MYAS.ORG

