

<b>ELKHORN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (4/5U LEAGUE)</b>	
League Rules	<p style="text-align: center;">Fundamental League (4/5U) Co-Ed T-Ball Rules</p> <p><b>Rule One:</b> ENCOURAGE every player and make it FUN! <b>Rule Two:</b> Each team will work with their own players. <b>Rule Three:</b> RECRUIT all parents, grandparents, siblings, relatives to help during station drills- don't let them sit around. <b>Rule Four:</b> See Rule One.</p> <p><u>1<sup>st</sup> 30 minutes</u></p> <p><b>Practice Stations</b> will consist of providing instruction to players in <b>smaller groups</b>. Each station will be manned by a volunteer coach and players will rotate between stations every <b>7 minutes</b>. Stations may include teaching basic fundamentals of these possible stations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Catching</li><li>- Fielding</li><li>- Hitting</li><li>- Throwing</li><li>- Base-Running</li></ul> <p>All stations will be provided with age-appropriate techniques and games to make it FUN for the new ball players.</p> <p>Recommend coaches have <b>three</b> practice stations for players before playing t-ball game. Coaches have discretion to pick the stations they want each week; however, we would recommend always having a <b>hitting</b> and <b>throwing</b> station each week.</p> <p><u>2<sup>nd</sup> 30 minutes</u></p> <p><b>T-Ball Game</b> will consist of <b>one inning (two, if time permits)</b> with every player batting and playing the field. The general rules will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- No score shall be kept</li><li>- Rotate fielding positions throughout game and season</li><li>- All players play in the field with maximum of six-infielders (to avoid dog-piles)</li><li>- Emphasize throwing the batter out at 1st base</li><li>- Every player bats through the line-up</li><li>- Every batter must wear helmet with face guard when hitting or running bases</li><li>- Base runners may advance to next base only after the ball is hit off the tee</li><li>- The ball must travel at least 10 ft from home plate to be considered fair</li><li>- There will be no recorded outs. If player hits the ball and is out at 1st base they will stay at 1st and run bases.</li><li>- Last batter of each inning will hit a home run to clear the bases.</li></ul> <p><b>As the season progresses, coaches may at their discretion play a T-ball game for complete hour (this would be recommended for last 1 or 2 games of the season).</b></p>

<b>ELKHORN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (6U LEAGUE)</b>	
League Rules	<p data-bbox="824 317 1154 352" style="text-align: center;"><b>6U Coach Pitch Rules</b></p> <p data-bbox="464 394 667 430"><b><u>GAME PLAY:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="513 432 1435 573" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Games will be 3 Innings or one (1) hour. No new inning will be started after 45 minutes.</li><li>• Each inning, bat 6 players.</li><li>• Base path distance - 55'</li></ul> <p data-bbox="464 611 618 646"><b><u>BATTING:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="513 648 1468 1902" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All players will bat in order throughout the game. Each inning, bat 6 players (or half the roster if more than 12 total players) and maintain the batting order rotation throughout the game to provide similar number of at bats for each player. (By doing this we will be able to keep the game pace moving and may be able to complete more than 3 innings while avoiding long stretches of kids in the field with little activity. In addition, players will get roughly the same amount of at bats and different kids will get to lead off each different inning throughout the game. Example: if you have a 12-player roster, 1st inning 1-6 bat, 2nd inning 7-12 bat, 3rd inning 1-6 bat again, and so on. (We encourage you to change the batting order every game). After June 1, you can start changing innings after 3 outs (through mutual agreement by head coaches before game).</li><li>• Each player must wear a helmet with face guard when hitting or running the bases.</li><li>• Bunting is not allowed.</li><li>• No base stealing.</li><li>• Runner may not leave a base until the ball has been hit.</li><li>• All batted balls must go at least (10') to be considered playable. A ball that does not go at least (10') is considered a foul ball. (If a player is struggling to hit, be flexible here).</li><li>• Do not be strict on foul balls. (i.e. – a kid is struggling to hit, but on his fourth chance hits a nice one just outside the 3rd base line ... Let him play it out.)</li><li>• Base runners may advance only one base on an overthrow. Once a hit ball is thrown in from the outfield and makes it to the diamond (on the dirt), a player can advance only one base to which he was already heading, but does so at his own peril. As an example, if a player is running from second to third and the ball is thrown in from the outfield to the third baseman and it gets past the third baseman and rolls toward the dugout, the player who is headed to third must stop at third and cannot go home. If that same player was already at third when the ball reached the diamond, and had made the turn toward home, he may advance home and score but does so at his own peril.</li></ul>

**PITCHING & FIELDING:**

- Pitching distance – 34’ – coaches may move closer if needed by batter.
- Players will play the designated positions in the infield, and teams may place up to 4 players in the outfield (it is recommended that extra players not playing defense when team is in the field participate in a bullpen with assistant coach or parent volunteer – this will maintain order in the field, and further demonstrate the need to stay in positions, while allowing other players to remain active).
- Coaches pitch from one knee to give batter better angle of seeing pitches. No buckets on field with either kid or coach pitching.
- Coach will pitch until the player has seen 6 “decent” pitches. If player does not hit within the 6 pitches, player will hit off the tee or soft toss (preferred).
- There will be no bases on balls or strike outs.
- If player is clearly out, we will have the player sit down. This is to teach them to hustle running the bases, and that if you are out, you don’t get to keep running the bases. Do not clear bases if three outs occur. Bat the 6 players per inning.
- Catchers (not required at this age) – If you have a catcher, have a coach off the pitching (or hitting) team back up the catcher. They should wear at minimum a catcher’s mask and a chest protector. The catcher is not to chase each ball he misses. Let the coach gather the balls. The catcher can only throw back the ones he catches. (This will maintain pace of the game and avoid delays of the catcher constantly chasing baseballs).

	<b>ELKHORN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (7U LEAGUE)</b>
League Rules	<p data-bbox="781 285 1174 317" style="text-align: center;"><b>7U Kid/Coach Pitch Rules</b></p> <p data-bbox="464 359 667 390"><b><u>GAME PLAY:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="513 396 1495 1041" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="513 396 1495 562">• Games will last up to six (6) innings. Game time will last 1 hour, 30 minutes. No new inning will be started after one (1) hour and fifteen (15) minutes. If the new inning cannot be completed, the score at the end of the last completed inning will be the final score.</li><li data-bbox="513 573 1495 814">• Seven (7) players are required to field a team. Up to two (2) players can be borrowed from the opposing team’s roster or from another team in the same division (No select players are allowed to fill in). Borrowed players must play the outfield and bat at the end of the lineup. If seven (7) players cannot be fielded, the game can still be played, but will officially be ruled a forfeit in the standings.</li><li data-bbox="513 825 1495 888">• Kid pitch first 2 innings of game, then coaches pitch remainder of game to speed up game. Coaches will pitch to their own kids.</li><li data-bbox="513 898 967 930">• Score will be kept for games.</li><li data-bbox="513 940 1011 972">• 5 runs maximum per half inning.</li><li data-bbox="513 982 1495 1041">• Wins and losses will be tracked for proper seeding for the end of season tournament.</li></ul> <p data-bbox="464 1079 618 1110"><b><u>BATTING:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="513 1117 1495 1373" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="513 1117 1495 1180">• All players will bat in order throughout the game. We encourage you to change batting order every game.</li><li data-bbox="513 1190 1495 1253">• A team will bat until it has made three (3) outs, or 5 runs are scored in that inning, whichever comes first.</li><li data-bbox="513 1264 878 1295">• Bunting is not allowed.</li><li data-bbox="513 1306 1495 1373">• Each player must wear a helmet with face guard when hitting or running the bases.</li></ul> <p data-bbox="464 1411 721 1442"><b><u>BASE RUNNING:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="513 1449 1495 1864" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="513 1449 805 1480">• No base stealing.</li><li data-bbox="513 1491 1430 1522">• Base runners may not leave a base until the ball has been hit.</li><li data-bbox="513 1533 1333 1564">• Base runners may advance one base on an overthrow.</li><li data-bbox="513 1575 1495 1709">• When the ball is in possession of a player anywhere in the infield (anywhere on the dirt), the play is dead and runners cannot move past the base they are heading to, unless another throw is made attempting to make a play on the runner.</li><li data-bbox="513 1719 902 1751">• Base path distance - 55’</li><li data-bbox="513 1761 1495 1864">• Cones will mark the outfield “fence line” on fields where no fence exits. A ball hit in the air over the cones is a homerun. A ball that bounces over the cones or past the cones is a ground-rule double.</li></ul> <p data-bbox="464 1894 816 1925"><b><u>PITCHING &amp; FIELDING:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="513 1932 1495 2041" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="513 1932 886 1963">• Pitching distance – 34’.</li><li data-bbox="513 1974 1495 2041">• Players will play the designated positions in the infield, and teams may place up to 4 players in the outfield (must be situated on</li></ul>

outfield grass at a minimum).

- Kid pitch first 2 innings of game, then coaches pitch remainder of game to speed up game. Coaches will pitch to their own kids.
- All pitches will be thrown overhand and will pitch from the pitching rubber. No buckets on field with either kid or coach pitching.
- No pitcher will be called for a balk.
- A pitcher can pitch for no more than two (2) innings in a game. A pitcher can pitch no more than four (4) innings in a week.
- Once a player has pitched he may not re-enter the game and pitch again.
- If a pitcher hits a batter with a pitch, the batter will take first base unless bases are loaded. Walks will not be permitted.
- Once there are four called “balls”, then the coach will pitch with the batter having the pre-existing count. Players at this time will either strike-out or hit.
- The pitcher remains in a fielding position while the coach is pitching. If a coach unintentionally interferes with the fielder’s attempt to make a play, the batter will return to home for another pitch. If the coach intentionally interferes with the fielder’s attempt to make a play, the player will be called out. Discretion is left to the umpire.

**COACHES/ UMPIRES:**

- Batting team coaches will be positioned in 1st and 3rd base coaching positions and behind the pitcher to assist when coach pitching is required.
- Fielding team coach can be positioned behind home plate to assist the pitchers and catchers with passed balls and to coach defensive players.
- Umpires will call balls, strikes & outs on both player and coach pitching.
- Walks will not be permitted. Once there are four called “balls”, then the coach will pitch with the batter having the pre-existing count. Players at this time will either strike-out or hit.
- No walks will be issued when coach is pitching. Coaches are to pitch from the rubber (same distance as pitcher) and throw overhand (either kneeling down on the mound or standing) at a similar speed to the pitchers (trying to avoid lob balls). After contact, coach should move behind pitcher to not interfere with play. No buckets on the field to avoid injury and interference.

	<b>ELKHORN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (8U LEAGUE)</b>
League Rules	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>8U Kid / Coach Pitch Rules</b></p> <p><b><u>GAME PLAY:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Games will last up to six (6) innings. Game time will last 1 hour, 30 minutes. No new inning will be started after one (1) hour and fifteen (15) minutes. If the new inning cannot be completed, the score at the end of the last completed inning will be the final score.</li> <li>• Seven (7) players are required to field a team. Up to two (2) players can be borrowed from the opposing team’s roster or from another team in the same division (No select players are allowed to fill in). Borrowed players must play the outfield and bat at the end of the lineup. If seven (7) players cannot be fielded, the game can still be played, but will officially be ruled a forfeit in the standings.</li> <li>• Kid pitch all season.</li> <li>• Score will be kept for games.</li> <li>• 5 runs maximum per half inning.</li> <li>• Wins and losses will be tracked for proper seeding for the end of season tournament.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>PITCHING:</u></b> Pitchers must adhere to Future Pitching Limits and Required Rest Periods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pitching distance – 40’</li> <li>• All pitches will be thrown overhand and will pitch from the pitching rubber. No buckets on field with either kid or coach pitching.</li> <li>• No pitcher will be called for a balk.</li> <li>• If a pitcher hits a batter with a pitch, the batter will take first base unless bases are loaded. Walks will not be permitted.</li> <li>• Once there are four called “balls”, then the coach from the hitting team will pitch with the batter having the pre-existing count. Players at this time will either strike-out or hit.</li> <li>• The pitcher remains in a fielding position while the coach is pitching. If a coach unintentionally interferes with the fielder’s attempt to make a play, the batter will return to home for another pitch. If the coach intentionally interferes with the fielder’s attempt to make a play, the player will be called out. Discretion is left to the umpire.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>BATTING:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All players will bat in order throughout the game. We encourage you to change batting order every game.</li> <li>• A team will bat until it has made three (3) outs, or 5 runs are scored in that inning, whichever comes first.</li> <li>• Bunting is not allowed.</li> <li>• Each player must wear a helmet with face guard when hitting or running the bases.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>FIELDING:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ten (10) players will be allowed in the field per inning with four (4) outfielders (must be situated on outfield grass at a minimum).</li> </ul>

- Once a player has pitched he may not re-enter the game and pitch again.

**DEFENSE:**

- **Unnecessary “Chatter”/Noise.** Once a pitcher is “set”, excessive noise, (as deemed by the game officials)by the offensive team as an attempt to distract the pitcher is not allowed.
- Umpires will also limit any chatter/banter between teams and/or spectators if it gets out of hand, in order to encourage a positive, supportive game experience for fans, coaches and players alike.

**BASE RUNNING:**

- Base path distance - 60’.
- Base stealing is not allowed.
- Runner may not leave a base until the ball has been hit.
- Base runners may advance one base on an overthrow.
- When the ball is in possession of a player anywhere in the infield (anywhere on the dirt), the play is dead and runners cannot move past the base they are heading to, unless another throw is made attempting to make a play on the runner.

**COACHES/ UMPIRES:**

- Batting team coaches will be positioned in 1st and 3rd base coaching positions and behind the pitcher to assist when coach pitching is required.
- Fielding team coach can be positioned behind home plate to assist the pitchers and catchers with pass balls and to coach defensive players, but cannot interfere with defensive plays.
- Umpires will call balls, strikes & outs on both player and coach pitching.
- Walks will not be permitted. Once there are four called “balls”, then the coach from the hitting team will pitch with the batter having the pre-existing count. Players at this time will either strike-out or hit. No walks will be issued when coach is pitching.
- Coaches are to pitch from the rubber (same distance as pitcher) and throw overhand(either kneeling down on the mound or standing) at a similar speed to the pitchers (trying to avoid lob balls). After contact, coach should move behind pitcher to not interfere with play. No buckets on the field to avoid injury and interference.

	<b>ELKHORN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (10U LEAGUE)</b>
<b>League Rules</b>	<p data-bbox="850 268 1149 300" style="text-align: center;"><b>9/10 Year-Old Rules</b></p> <p data-bbox="464 344 667 375"><b><u>GAME PLAY:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="513 384 1520 989" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Games shall be <u>6 innings</u>. Extra innings shall be played in case of tied games; however, games tied after 6 innings may be called a tie in case of darkness or bad weather. An official game is four innings (3 ½ if home team is ahead) in case of bad weather.</li><li>• No inning shall start after the one (1) hour and forty-five (45) minute time limit <b><u>(1:45 time limit)</u></b>. Injury and/or equipment failure does not extend these time limits. If the new inning cannot be completed, the score at the end of the last completed inning will be the final score.</li><li>• Seven (7) players are required to field a team. Up to two (2) players can be borrowed from the opposing team's roster or from another team in the same division (No select players are allowed to fill in). Borrowed players must play the outfield and bat at the end of the lineup. If seven (7) players cannot be fielded, the game can still be played, but will officially be ruled a forfeit in the standings.</li><li>• Mercy Rule- 15 runs after 3 innings or 10 runs after 4 innings</li><li>• <u>65 feet</u> between bases / <u>46 feet</u> between the home plate and the pitching rubber.</li></ul> <p data-bbox="464 1031 626 1062"><b><u>PITCHING:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="526 1071 1487 1213" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pitchers must adhere to Futures Pitching Limits and Required RestPeriods</li><li>• There are no penalties for balks and no intentional walks allowed under any circumstances.</li></ul> <p data-bbox="464 1255 618 1287"><b><u>BATTING:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="513 1295 1528 1703" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each player on hand shall be in the batting order, however 3 outs ends the inning.</li><li>• Each player must wear a helmet with face guard when hitting / running the bases.</li><li>• There will be a 5 run rule per inning.</li><li>• If a batter throws the bat, he shall receive a warning the first time. The batter shall automatically be called out if the same batter throws the bat in subsequent at bats during the game.</li><li>• Batters may <u>not advance</u> on a <u>dropped third strike</u>.</li><li>• Infield fly rule is in effect with runners on 1st &amp; 2nd with less than two outs. No bunting when 3rd base is occupied.</li></ul> <p data-bbox="464 1745 623 1776"><b><u>FIELDING:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="526 1785 1528 2030" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only <u>nine players</u> shall play in the field defensively. Unlimited defensive substitutions are allowed except for the pitchers. A player removed from the pitcher's position may not reenter the game to pitch again.</li><li>• No player shall be held out of a game defensively for 3 consecutive innings except for injury or discipline. Each player shall play a minimum of 3 innings per game except for injury or discipline,</li></ul>



unless game is shortened by time limit.

- Catchers are required to wear a protective cup, mask, chest protector and shinguards.

### **DEFENSE:**

- **Obstruction of a Runner.** Defensive players that are not in possession of the ball cannot block or impede a base runner's path unless the fielder is making a play on a batted ball. **If a fielder has possession of the ball** - he can stand wherever he wants without risk of being called for obstruction. When obstruction occurs, play stops (umpire calls time). Generally, the runner is awarded base(s) and other runners typically advance to the base they were approaching at the time of the obstruction.
- **Unnecessary "Chatter"/Noise.** Once a pitcher is "set", excessive noise (as deemed by the game officials) by the offensive team, as an attempt to distract the pitcher, is not allowed.
- Umpires will also limit any chatter/banter between teams and/or spectators if it gets out of hand, in order to encourage a positive, supportive game experience for fans, coaches and players alike.

### **BASE RUNNING:**

- Runners shall not lead-off but may advance at their own risk (steal) once a pitched ball crosses home plate. If runner leaves base prior to the ball crossing the plate, the following rules will apply:
  - If runner advances safely, the umpire shall call TIME and the runner shall return to the base they were on prior to the pitch.
  - If the runner is called out, the call will stand and the runner is out.
  - If the ball is hit, the defensive team shall have the option of the result of the play or no pitch.
- Runners cannot advance bases on overthrows from Catcher back to the Pitcher.
- Base runners may advance one base on an overthrow.
- When the ball is in possession of a player anywhere in the infield (anywhere on the dirt), the play is dead and runners cannot move past the base they are heading to, unless another throw is made attempting to make a play on the runner.
- Runners can only steal one base at a time. Runner cannot steal from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>, even on a passed ball. A runner stealing a base can take another base, if the catcher attempts to throw out the stealing runner.
- Base runners shall not yell, wave arms, clap, jump up and down or otherwise attempt to distract the pitcher – runner shall be called out.
- Runners must slide to avoid collisions with defensive players when a tag play is evident. **NO EXCEPTIONS. Runners initiating an intentional collision or not making an effort to avoid a collision will be called out and may be ejected from the game.** Our goal is to avoid injury.
- **HOME PLATE MAY NOT BE STOLEN ON THE PITCH**, even if there is a passed ball or wild pitch. If the catcher attempts to throw

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	<p>out a stealing base runner on another base, or throws back to third base, the runner can attempt to steal home. If runners are on 1st &amp; 3rd and catcher throws to second, the runner on 3rd can be sent home.</p>
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	<b>ELKHORN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (12U LEAGUE)</b>
<b>League Rules</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>11/12 Year-Old Rules</b></p> <p><b><u>GAME PLAY:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Games shall be <u>6 innings</u>. Extra inning can be played in tied games. However games tied after 7 innings may be called a tie in case of darkness or bad weather. An official game is four innings (3 ½ if home team is ahead) in case of bad weather.</li><li>• No inning shall start after the one (1) hour and forty-five (45) minute time limit (1:45 time limit). No inning shall start after 9:45PM on a night preceding a school day. If the game is tied, that is the final score. Injury and/or equipment failure does not extend these time limits. If the new inning cannot be completed, the score at the end of the last completed inning will be the final score.</li><li>• Seven (7) players are required to field a team. Up to two (2) players can be borrowed from the opposing team's roster or from another team in the same division (No select players are allowed to fill in). Borrowed players must play the outfield and bat at the end of the lineup. If seven (7) players cannot be fielded, the game can still be played, but will officially be ruled a forfeit in the standings</li><li>• 7 run limit per inning.</li><li>• Mercy 15 runs after 4 innings or 10 runs after 5 innings.</li><li>• <u>70 feet</u> between Rule - bases / <u>50 feet</u> between the home plate and the pitching rubber</li><li>• Metal cleats WILL NOT be worn.</li></ul> <p><b><u>PITCHING:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pitchers must adhere to Future Pitching Limits and Required Rest Periods.</li><li>• Balk rules will be enforced. Pitcher will be given one warning, and upon subsequent violation, balk rule will be enforced.</li></ul> <p><b><u>BATTING:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each player on hand shall be in the batting order, however 3 outs ends the inning.</li><li>• Each player must wear a helmet with face guard when hitting or running the bases.</li><li>• Batters MAY advance to 1<sup>st</sup> base on a <u>dropped third strike</u> with less than two outs and first base is unoccupied, or if two outs regardless of the base being occupied.</li><li>• Bunting is allowed.</li><li>• Infield fly rule is in effect with runners on 1st &amp; 2nd with less than two outs.</li></ul> <p><b><u>FIELDING:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only <u>nine players</u> shall play in the field defensively.</li><li>• Unlimited defensive substitutions are allowed except for the pitchers. A player removed from the pitcher's position may not reenter the game to pitch again.</li><li>• No player shall be held out of a game defensively for 3 consecutive</li></ul>

innings except for injury or discipline

- Each player shall play a minimum of 3 innings per game except for injury or discipline.
- Catchers are required to wear a protective cup, mask, chest protector and shinguards.

**DEFENSE:**

- **Obstruction of a Runner.** Defensive players that are not in possession of the ball cannot block or impede a base runner's path unless the fielder is making a play on a batted ball. **If a fielder has possession of the ball** - he can stand wherever he wants without risk of being called for obstruction. When obstruction occurs, play stops (umpire calls time). Generally, the runner is awarded base(s) and other runners typically advance to the base they were approaching at the time of the obstruction.
- **Unnecessary "Chatter"/Noise.** Once a pitcher is "set", excessive noise (as deemed by the game officials) by the offensive team, as an attempt to balk the pitcher, is not allowed.
- Umpires will also limit any chatter/banter between teams and/or spectators if it gets out of hand, in order to encourage a positive, supportive game experience for fans, coaches and players alike.

**BASE RUNNING:**

- Runners may lead-off and advance at their own risk (steal). HOME PLATE is open.
- Runners can advance bases on overthrows from the Catcher back to the Pitcher.
- Runners can advance at their own peril on an overthrown ball that remains in the field of play. Base runners can advance one base on an overthrow that goes out of play.
- Base runners shall not yell, wave arms, clap, jump up and down or otherwise attempt to distract the pitcher – runner shall be called out.
- Runners must slide to avoid collisions with defensive players when a tag play is evident. **NO EXCEPTIONS. Runners initiating an intentional collision or not making an effort to avoid a collision will be called out and may be ejected from the game.** Our goal is to avoid injury.

	<b>ELKHORN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (14U LEAGUE)</b>
League Rules	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>13/14 Year-Old Rules</b></p> <p><b><u>GAME PLAY:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Games shall be 7 innings. Extra inning can be played in tied games. However games tied after 7 innings may be called a tie in case of darkness or bad weather.</li><li>• No inning shall start after the one (1) hour and forty-five (45) minute time limit <b><u>(1:45 time limit)</u></b>. No inning shall start after 10PM on a night preceding a school day. If the game is tied, that is the final score. Injury and/or equipment failure does not extend these time limits. If the new inning cannot be completed, the score at the end of the last completed inning will be the final score.</li><li>• Seven (7) players are required to field a team. Up to two (2) players can be borrowed from the opposing team's roster or from another team in the same division (No select players are allowed to fill in). Borrowed players must play the outfield and bat at the end of the lineup. If seven (7) players cannot be fielded, the game can still be played, but will officially be ruled a forfeit in the standings.</li><li>• Mercy Rule - USSSA rules 7.03.B which states 12 runs after 4 and 8 runs after 6 innings</li><li>• <u>80 feet</u> between bases / <u>54 feet</u> between the home plate and the pitching rubber</li><li>• Metal cleats are allowed to be worn.</li></ul> <p><b><u>PITCHING:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pitchers must adhere to Futures Pitching Limits and Required Rest Periods.</li><li>• Balk rules will be enforced.</li></ul> <p><b><u>BATTING:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each player on hand shall be in the batting order, however 3 outs ends the inning.</li><li>• <i>For Plus Divisions Only, Coaches will meet prior to the game and select Option 1 or Option 2, and cannot switch options during the course of the game, but may switch options at the start of a new game:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Option 1:</b> Bat entire roster / all can substitute freely</li><li>○ <b>Option 2:</b> Bat 10 batters including an EH (Extra Hitter) – 10 players can substitute freely / bench players over 10 can only substitute in once/game and can't be removed.</li><li>○ Bench players must be substituted into the game for a minimum of 1 inning in a full non-run ruled game.</li><li>○ Bench players must start the next game and have at least 1 at bat and 1 defensive inning played before being removed.</li></ul></li><li>• Each player must wear a helmet with face guard when hitting or running the bases (c-flaps are acceptable at this age).</li></ul>

**FIELDING:**

- Only nine players shall play in the field defensively.
- Unlimited defensive substitutions are allowed except for the pitchers. A player removed from the pitcher's position may not reenter the game to pitch again.
- No player shall be held out of a game defensively for 3 consecutive innings except for injury or discipline.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 3 innings per game except for injury or discipline
- Catchers are required to wear a protective cup, mask, chest protector and shinguards.

**DEFENSE:**

- **Obstruction of a Runner.** Defensive players that are not in possession of the ball cannot block or impede a base runner's path unless the fielder is making a play on a batted ball. **If a fielder has possession of the ball** - he can stand wherever he wants without risk of being called for obstruction. When obstruction occurs, play stops (umpire calls time). Generally, the runner is awarded base(s) and other runners typically advance to the base they were approaching at the time of the obstruction.
- **Unnecessary "Chatter"/Noise.** Once a pitcher is "set", excessive noise (as deemed by the game officials) by the offensive team, as an attempt to distract the pitcher, is not allowed.
- Umpires will also limit any chatter/banter between teams and/or spectators if it gets out of hand, in order to encourage a positive, supportive game experience for fans, coaches and players alike.

**BASE RUNNING:**

- Runners may lead-off and advance at their own risk (steal). HOME PLATE is open.
- Runners can advance bases on overthrows from the Catcher back to the Pitcher.
- Runners can advance at their own peril on an overthrown ball that remains in the field of play. Base runners can advance one base on an overthrow that goes out of play.
- Runners must slide to avoid collisions with defensive players when a tag play is evident. **NO EXCEPTIONS. Runners initiating an intentional collision or not making an effort to avoid a collision will be called out and may be ejected from the game.** Our goal is to avoid injury.

Last updated: 01 March 2022

## **\*FUTURES LEAGUE PITCHING LIMITS AND REQUIRED REST PERIODS**

### **Age League/Max Pitches per day**

8U: 50 pitches per day

9-10U: 75 pitches per day

11-12U: 85 pitches per day

13-14U: 95 pitches per day

Exception: If a pitcher reaches the pitch limit for his age league while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any of the following conditions occur:

1. That batter reaches base
2. That batter is put out
3. The 3rd out is made to complete half-inning

### **Pitches per day/Period of rest**

1-20 pitches = No Required Rest

21-35 pitches = 1 Day of Rest

36-50 pitches = 2 Days of Rest

51-65 pitches = 3 Days of Rest

66+ pitches = 4 Days of Rest