



Triple AAA Baseball Rules

Goals

At the Triple AAA level players will learn the values of winning and losing while learning to play baseball on their own. Players at this level should start to realize what their responsibilities are as a baseball player.

They should begin to realize what role they play on their team. They should also begin to learn what their job duties are at each position. This is the level where they should begin to learn “togetherness” and what being a team is all about.

The Triple AAA division consists of 10-11 players per team. Players are assigned to teams by the TBSC. Efforts are made to create teams that are equal primarily based on skill evaluation and age.

General

- 1.1 Practice on assigned fields at assigned times only. (Contact TBSC for additional availability)
- 1.2 No Automobiles on Baseball/Softball Complex walking paths
- 1.3 **Following each game**, coaches are asked to **rake** the base, plate and pitcher’s mound area with rakes hanging outside each dugout. This helps fill in low spots that occur during the game.

Games

- 2.1 Games will consist of six (6) innings, or a one hour and 30 minute time limit has been reached. **No new inning shall start after one hour fifteen minutes.** Half innings may be completed. Umpire will attempt to notify coaches of last inning when appropriate (Game circumstances may dictate that last inning may not be called until limit is up)
- 2.2 **Five (5) runs per inning rule** applies. If five (5) runs cross the plate in any half inning, that half inning is over and the players switch sides. Five run rule **DOES** apply in the last inning. Last inning is considered the sixth (6th) inning or the last inning of play due to the time limit.
- 2.3 The 10 run rule applies after four (4) innings, or three and one half (3-1/2) innings if the home team is leading.
- 2.4 Teams can play with any amount of players. No empty batter’s position shall be considered an out. Late players must bat at the bottom of the batting order. **NOTE:** Maximum of 9 players on defense at any one time. Teams can share players if needed so the game can be played. **All players will be in the batting line up.**

- 2.5 If a game has been called before it becomes a regulation game, but after one (1) or more innings have been played it shall be resumed exactly where it left off. NOTE: All records, including pitching shall be counted. (Rule 4.10 (d))
- 2.6 If a game has been called after four (4) innings, or three and one half (3-1/2) if home team is leading, the game shall be considered a regulation game. (Rule 4.10(c))
- 2.7 Scores and standings will be kept. The post season tournament will be based on these standings.
- 2.8 Postponed games may be made up. Please schedule with your league director to determine time and coverage for umpires.
- 2.9 Home plate & (1) Field umpire, if available, will be provided by TBSC. Home plate umpire is the “crew chief” of all umpires. Any disputed calls will be made in the best judgment of the home plate umpire. The umpires will remain on the field until all players have returned to the dugout after the handshake line.

Playing Rules

- 3.1 Free substitutions.
- 3.2 All runners are encouraged to slide in the attempt of a put out or force out except at first base. Coaches are encouraged to teach their players how to slide and when to slide. Players must slide or attempt to get around a fielder who has the ball during a play.
- 3.3 Home plate is **OPEN**.
- 3.4 When a ball is put in play, runners may advance at their own risk.
- 3.5 No player should sit more than a single inning in any given game, unless because of injury. Coaches should give players the opportunity to play multiple positions and should strive to give every player a chance to play an infield position for at least one inning in each game. Every player will be in the batting line up.
- 3.6 Managers, coaches **MAY** warm up a pitcher at home plate in between innings. Pitchers are allowed a **maximum** of **(5)** warm up pitches between innings.
- 3.7 On deck batters must remain close to the dugout.
- 3.8 TBSC will provide the offensive team with at least four (4) protective helmets which meet NOCSAE specifications and standards.
- 3.9 Teams may use a courtesy runner for the catcher when the catcher reaches base so the catcher can begin putting on his gear. The courtesy runner shall be the player who recorded the last out. This is not a mandatory rule, but a rule to help minimize time between the innings.
- 3.10 Dropped 3rd Strike Rule **DOES** apply.
- 3.11 Infield Fly Rule **DOES** apply.
- 3.12 Baserunners may lead off any of the bases.

Pitching Rules

- 4.1 Umpires shall be responsible for the conduct of the game while calling balls and strikes.
- 4.2 Hit Batters: Pitchers must be removed after hitting three (3) batters in an inning, as long as the batters made an attempt to get out of the way of the pitches, in the judgment of the umpire.

4.3 **Player Pitch Innings apply as follows:**

If a player pitches 66 or more pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest

If a player pitches 51-60 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest

If a player pitches 36-50 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest

If a player pitches 21-35 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar day of rest must be observed.

If a player pitches 1-20 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar days of rest is required.

Under no circumstances shall a player pitch in three (3) consecutive days

4.4 All pitch counts will be recorded on the TBSC **Pitch Count Card** and handed into the concession stand at the conclusion of the game. Both Coaches must sign the card. Failure to report the pitch counts will result in all players who pitched in a given game to receive the **maximum pitches (75)** regardless of the number of pitches thrown.

4.5 No “automatic” intentional walks are allowed. If a pitcher wishes to intentionally walk a batter, he must do so by pitching four (4) pitches intentionally outside of the strike zone that are not struck at by the batter, and are called “balls” by the umpire. All such pitches will count in determining the pitcher’s pitch count.

General Conduct

5.1 Coaches and players are doing their best at teaching and learning the game of baseball and softball. At no time will parent or spectator arguing, abusive language, abusive behavior, fighting, or any derogatory conduct be tolerated. If this occurs, you will be asked to leave the premises. If you are asked to leave, the Tiger Baseball and Softball Board of Directors will review the incident and apply appropriate punishment. In the same respect, coaches will be asked to conduct themselves in the same kind of behavior. If you feel a coach is being abusive to a child in any way, please notify a board member so they are aware of the situation.

5.2 All ejections and resulting disciplinary action taken toward players and coaches will be determined by the Tiger Baseball and Softball Club board members.

5.3 Questions concerning interpretations of the rules or complaints concerning the operation of the Tiger Baseball and Softball club should be directed to a board member.

Coaches Conduct

6.1 If the TBSC directors receive a negative complaint about a coach's conduct, that coach will be notified and subject to reprimand, pending a hearing conducted by the Board of Directors. Punishment could be a possible suspension of a game(s), and/or removal of your coaching duties. This will be determined by the Board of Directors.

6.2 The use or promotion of tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs in any form by players, coaches, or adult leaders in the dugout, on the bleachers, or on the playing field shall not be permitted.

6.3 It is the coach’s responsibility to make sure your dugout and surrounding area is clean after each game. Please respect our facility and keep it looking nice.

Playing Field and Equipment

7.1 Pitching Distance 54’

7.2 Base Path Distance 80’

7.3 All baseballs will be NOCSAE certified.

7.4 USA and USSSA certified bats will be allowed.

7.5 All players will have matching shirts and hats.

- 7.6 Shoes with metal spikes or cleats ARE permitted.
- 7.7 Players must not wear jewelry such as, but not limited to, rings, watches, earrings, bracelets, necklaces, nor any hard cosmetic/decorative items. This rule applies regardless of the composition of such jewelry, hard cosmetic items, or hard decorative items. Hard items to control the hair, such as beads, are permitted. **(EXCEPTION:** Jewelry that alerts medical personnel to a specific condition is permissible)
- 7.8 Casts may not be worn during the game.
- 7.9 All catchers must wear the long-modeled chest protector. All catchers must wear chest protectors with neck collar, throat guard, shin guards, and helmet all of which must meet NOCSAE specifications and standards and bear the NOCSAE stamp. Skullcaps are not permitted. Catchers are encouraged to wear an athletic supporter with a metal, fiber, or plastic type cup.

TBSC

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