FYB PONY RULES

Revised 1/1/2022- All rule violations will be brought to the FYB Board for further discussion

USA bats required- no prohibited bats allowed

***If FYB interleagues with another league, then during the current baseball season these rules do not apply. The other leagues rules apply.**

IN THIS DIVISION PLAYERS CONTINUE TO DEVELOP IN THE COMPLETE GAME OF BASEBALL
Pony Baseball Rules and Regulations will be followed with the exceptions noted below:

1. A regulation game will be 7 innings, with the following time limit: No top of inning shall begin after 2 hours, 15 minutes from the “Official Start Time’. Drop dead game limit is 3 hours. Exception: a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes shall be added to the end of a game’s time limit to replace the exact amount of time lost during that game due to “Acts of Nature” or serious injury requiring a player to permanently leave the game. The umpire will determine the exact amount of time extension. At the end of the extended time, the game will be either a completed game (five innings or a suspended game, which will resume from the time of play stoppage.

2. If less than eight players are ready to play after a fifteen (15) minute waiting period, the game is a forfeit. No makeup of that game will be allowed. The umpire will decide when the allowed fifteen (15) minutes have expired. At this point the umpire will remain to call the game if the teams wish to a scrimmage game. If an umpire does not show within (15) minutes after the game time, an umpire will be chosen from the stands or from the Coaches by agreement of the two teams and the game will proceed. The name(s) of the umpire(s) must be inserted in the official book.

Note: Extra innings are allowed, not to exceed 9 innings for the game (time permitting as outlined above)

3. Home team scorekeeper should note the official start time. The Home team scorekeeper is the official scorekeeper. As soon as the game concludes, the home team needs to report the final score to the designated league representative via text or email.

4. Balks: All balks will be called.

5. A slide or avoid contact rule shall be in effect at all times. Any violation of this rule by a base runner shall result in the runner being called out, if they are otherwise safe, and possible ejection of the player at the discretion of the umpire.

6. If any defender fakes a base runner into sliding unnecessarily, that defender will be warned by the umpire and the defenders actions treated as unsportsmanlike conduct, which may result in being ejected from the game.

7. No player shall sit on the bench during 2 consecutive defensive innings. No player shall sit twice before every player has sat out at least once. No player shall sit out a third time until all players have sat out twice. The Manager / Coach will be required to inform the home scorekeeper between innings who is sitting out defensively for that inning of play. The Manager / Coach will provide a last name & uniform number for the player (s) to the home scorekeeper.

8. When a pitcher hits three batters in the same game, that pitcher will be removed as pitcher only for the remainder of the game. They may be warned at the time of the second offense.

9. All players will be in the batting order at all times. Free substitution on defense.

10. Runners at third base may steal home.

11. PITCH COUNT: All players are subject to the restrictions of the below pitch count, as recommended by MLB Pitch Smart Guidelines. These guidelines apply to players based on their actual age, not their league age. Rest is calculated as per calendar day.

12. Pitchers reaching their maximum number of pitches in a day, while pitching to a batter, may finish pitching to that batter before being removed. A pitcher is charged with the number of pitches in the specific calendar day and week in which they are pitched.

13. As the home team is the official scorekeeper, the visiting team will keep the official pitch count. To ensure accurate pitch counts, it is recommended to use GameChanger, a free electronic app. As soon as the game concludes, the visiting team needs to report the final pitch count to the designated league representative via text or email.

14. Any violation of the pitching rules/ineligible player will result in the Manager being subjected to suspension by the league. Violations are to be reported to the League Representative for the Pony Division.

15. Mercy Rule - 15 runs after 5th inning.

16. Infield fly rule is in effect for this division.

17. Players are to remain in the dugout during the game, except for the on-deck batter and players warming up in the bullpen area. Catchers warming up pitchers must wear a protective facemask, including cup. Team may pinch run for next inning's catcher at any time using the last batter to make an out to speed up transition to the next inning.

18. Both teams will be responsible for ensuring that bases are in place, and the field is dragged and the foul lines are chalked. Field prep must be completed 40 min prior to the start of the game. After the final game of the day, both teams shall prep the pitching mound and cover it and prep the batter's box. Both teams are responsible for cleaning their respective stands after each game. Both teams are responsible for cleaning their respective dugouts.

19. TIME PERMITTING: Visiting team has the field for infield practice starting at 40 minutes before game time. The Home team has the field from 20 minutes before game time until game

time. Each team has one designated batting cage. Home team’s designated batting cage is the closest one to the field of play. Batting cages are available to the playing teams one hour before game time. Once the game begins, the batting cages are closed to both teams.