

PLUM BASEBALL & SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

WOODEN BAT TOURNAMENT RULES

Updated September 8, 2015

Tournaments follow Official Major League Baseball Rules for all tournaments unless otherwise specified below.

1. **Registration**

All registered teams must submit a completed roster form and provide verification of proof of insurance that list Plum Baseball Softball Association as additional insured prior to their first game.

2. **Eligibility**

Player's birthdates must meet the age requirements of their respective age divisions. A player's tournament age is based on the age they are as of April 30. Players cannot be double rostered in the same age division. Each team must bring a copy of the official state-issued birth certificate for each player. The team manager must keep the birth certificates of all players on him at all times. If any player does not have his birth certificate, he/she cannot participate in the tournament. If a team caught using a player that is older than the cutoff for the division, that team will forfeit every game that player has played in.

3. **Time Limit**

All tournament games in pool play and playoffs (including elimination games) will have a time limit. Championship games will not. The time limits are as follows:

8U-13U	1 hour and 45 minutes
14U	2 hours
15U-18U	2 hours and 15 minutes (Wood bat 2 hours)

If a new inning has started prior to the time limit, then that inning will finish. No new inning can start after the time limit. Pool games can end in a tie. If when the time limit hits, or extra innings, and both teams are tied, we will go to a Texas Shootout. The last three batters to have an official at bat from the previous inning will be placed on the bases. The last batter to have an official at bat will be placed on first base. The second to last batter to have an official at bat will be placed on second base. The third to last batter to have an official at bat will be placed on third base. The batter will start with a full count and the inning will be played out.

The game will be considered a complete game after the home team bats in the bottom of the first inning. If a game should be called due to darkness, or weather, and it is the middle of an inning, then the game will revert back to the score from the previous inning if the first inning has been completed.

TIME LIMITS MAY CHANGE DUE TO WEATHER

4. **Playoffs/Tie Breakers**

Seeding results will be available on the PBSA website between 10pm and 11pm Saturday evening.

In the event that teams are tied after pool play, the following process will be followed:

- A. Head to Head (only if 2 teams are tied. 3 or more, go to next tie breaker)
- B. Fewest Runs Allowed
- C. Runs Scored
- D. Run Differential (will be capped at +/-7 per game)
- E. Coin Flip

There will be no re-seeding in the playoff brackets

5. **Pitching**

There are no pitching rules. Once a player is removed from the mound, he/she cannot return to the mound in the same game. Second trip to the mound in the same inning results in removal of the pitcher.

6. **Balks**

There will be no warnings on balk calls. Umpire discretion may be used on younger ages.

7. **Re-entry**

Defensive: Each team will be allowed unlimited substitutions in the field. A player does not have to be in the batting order to play the field

Offensive: Continuous batting order required.

8. **Home Team**

In pool play a coin flip will determine who the home team is. In playoffs and the championship the high seed will have their choice of being the home or visitor. If two teams should have the same seed, then a coin flip will determine home team.

9. **Scorekeeping**

A. Each team's manager must prepare 1 written copy of his lineup listing first and last names and numbers of all players and substitutes prior to each game. Lineups then must be provided to the opposing team's manager.

B. The Official Scorebook is to be kept by the home team. Both teams should confer after each inning to confirm the score.

C. A completed score sheet must be filled out and signed by the winning manager after each game and presented to the tournament director. **Please make sure this is done so that we can make sure we stay on top of the scores and post the results ASAP.**

10. **Slide Rule**

NEW 2012 NO HEAD FIRST SLIDES, except when going back to the bag. Player will be called out. No Warnings. In the event of a close play the runner must avoid contact. On double plays a runner must slide straight into the bag, not past the bag, or to the side to make contact. If a player does make contact sliding past the bag or to the side, then that player and the runner, to where the defensive player was trying to make the play, are out and the sliding player may be ejected. All close plays and slides are at the umpire's discretion.

11. **Baseball Cleats**

Metal spikes are allowed only in divisions 13U and older.

12. **Bat Restrictions**

Wood Bats only. Bamboo and composite wood bats are **NOT** permitted.

13. **Protests**

A. Judgment calls by the umpire cannot be protested, rules only, and must be decided before resuming play.

B. A \$100 cash protest fee must be presented to the tournament director at the time of the protest.

C. A protest is "Official" only if it is accompanied by the \$100 and done before the next pitch.

D. Protests include questioning a player's age.

E. If the protest is upheld, then the \$100 will be refunded.

14. **Entry Refunds**

There will be no entry refunds for withdrawal from a tournament within 21 days of the start of that particular event. Refunds due to weather postponement will be calculated by the number of games played. The weather refunds will go as follows:

3 Game Guarantee	
0 games played:	Entry fee minus a \$75 administrative fee
1 game played:	50% of the entry fee
2 games played:	No Refunds

4 Game Guarantee	
0 games played:	Entry fee minus a \$75 administrative fee
1 game played:	50% of the entry fee
2 games played:	\$50 credit towards future tourney
3 games played:	No Refunds

15. Dugouts

Please help keep the tournament fields and common areas clean. Please be sure to pick up all your team's trash after the game.

16. Ejections

- A. All ejections are at the umpires' discretion.
- B. NO WARNINGS will be given to coaches, players, or fans for unsportsmanlike or unruly behavior.
- C. Upon ejection, the coach, player, or fan must completely leave the premises. Failure to comply will result in a team forfeit.
- D. Any coach, player, or fan ejected from a game will not be permitted on the premises for the rest of the tournament.
- E. Forfeit counts as a loss in the standings and 7 runs allowed for tie breakers.

17. Official Game

All games are official after the completion of the 1st inning. If a game should be called due to darkness, or weather, and it is the middle of an inning, then the game will revert back to the score from the previous inning if the first inning has been completed. If there are ample game slots left, the game may be re-scheduled to resume.

18. Mercy Rule

8U-12U Age Divisions			
15 after 2 innings	12 after 3 innings	10 after 4 innings	8 after 5 innings

13U-18U Age Divisions			
15 after 3 innings	12 after 4 innings	10 after 5 innings	8 after 6 innings

19. Format Alterations

PBSA reserves the right to alter, change, or abbreviate tournament formats and rules, when necessary. This includes, but not limited to, shortening times limits in order to maintain the game schedule and to ensure all games are played.

20. Intentional Walk

Coach must notify the home plate umpire and the hitter will be granted 1st base.

21. Baseballs

Each team please bring one ball per game. Wilson 1074. Ages 8 thru 12 and 1075. Ages 13 and 14 or equivalent.

22. Courtesy Runners

Courtesy Runners for catcher must follow rule #7 and are optional with 2 outs.

23. Division Rules

All divisions 10 and older will play leads and steals.

9 & 10 Yr. Olds

60'-65' bases*

46' mound

6 inning game

11 & 12 Yr. Olds

70' bases**

50' mound

6 inning game

13 and 14 Yr. Olds

80' bases

54' mound

7 inning game

*Can be 60' bases depending on tournament and field availability.

**Can be 65' bases depending on tournament and field availability.

24. Umpires

If there is no Tournament Representative on site, the Umpires will serve as the on-site Tournament Representatives. For 10U and down, there will be 1 umpire for Pool Play and Consolation Games. 12U and under will have 1 umpire for all games until championship game. 13u and up will have 2 umpires for all games.

25. Infield/Outfield

There will be no infield/outfield practice prior to tournament games. Also, hitting waffle balls, into nets, etc. is not allowed on any part of the fields.

26. **8u run limit**- 5 runs per inning except last when 3 outs must be recorded.

27. **Suicide squeeze** No swinging allowed on suicide squeeze attempts. Batter will be out and runner returns to third.

28. Continuous batting order must be employed.

29. A team can start a game with 8 players. It's tournament manager discretion if entire game can be played with 8 players.